THE NEW
INDIAN EXPRESS

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POLLUTION LAW IN THE WORKS, SC PUTS LOKUR PANEL ON HOLD

Monday's decision by the apex court came after Centre said it's creating a permanent body to tackle air pollution in Delhi-NCR

NEW LEGISLATION IN THREE-FOUR DAYS: CENTRE

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta told the court that the Centre will come out with a comprehensive legislation to address air pollution in Delhi, including the issue of stubble burning in neighbouring Punjab, Haryana and UP. He didn't spell out details of the new law, but said it will be brought in three to four days, and will put in place a permanent body to tackle air pollution | P7

PEOPLE ARE CHOKING, SAYS CJI BOBDE

- Welcoming the proposal, CJI S A Bobde said, "The only issue is people are choking because of pollution, and it must be curbed"
- On October 16, the court had appointed a one-man panel comprising retired SC judge Madan B Lokur to monitor steps taken by govts of Punjab, Haryana, UP to prevent stubble burning

Oct 29
WHEN THE COURT WILL HEAR THE MATTER AGAIN

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

A DIM DASARA

Abhimanyu (54) carries the 750-kg golden howdah with the idol of Goddess Chamundeshwari during the Jamboo Savari on Vijayadashami day in Mysuru on Monday. Amidst the lurking fear of Covid-19, the cultural hub of Karnataka witnessed a scaled-down version of Dasara this year, with simple celebrations confined to the Mysuru Palace premises | UDAYSHANKAR S | P5

India, US to ink 2 key deals today

Jaishankar, Rajnath hold talks with Pompeo, Esper ahead of the 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue

PUSHKAR BANAKAR & MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

Mike Pompeo

Mark Esper

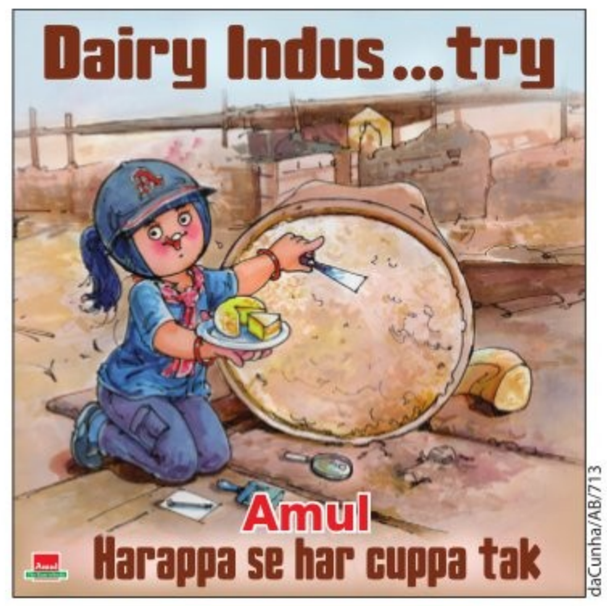
SETTING the stage for the signing of two crucial defence and information-sharing deals in the third 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defence Secretary Mark Esper held bilateral talks with their respective counterparts, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, here on Monday.

"The two ministers (Singh and Esper) reviewed bilateral defence cooperation spanning military-to-military cooperation, secure communication systems and information-sharing, defence trade and industrial issues, and also discussed ways to take bilateral cooperation forward. The two ministers expressed satisfaction that agreement of BECA (Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement for geo-spatial cooperation) will be signed during the visit," read a Ministry of Defence statement released after the meeting.

The top US officials are in India for the 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue during which BECA and MISTA (Maritime Information Sharing Technical Arrangement) will be signed.

While BECA gives India access to accurate US satellite data for navigation and precision military targets, MISTA will help in enhanced information and intelligence sharing between the two countries.

The 2+2 dialogue comes amid border tensions with China. The US has condemned China's aggressive actions along the LAC and the South China Sea and the two US officials will likely be canvassing their anti-China stance when they visit Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Indonesia on their way back to the US. CONTINUED ON: P7



daCunha/AB/713

EXPRESS READ

Kangana lashes out at Uddhav

Mumbai: Hitting out at Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray for his comments at a rally, actor Kangana Ranaut on Monday described him as 'the worst product of nepotism' and said her state Himachal Pradesh is the land of the gods, not 'ganja fields'. Kangana has been vocal about her criticism of the Maharashtra government's handling of the probe into actor Sushant Singh Rajput's death.

Coal scam: 3-year jail for ex-minister

New Delhi: A Delhi court Monday awarded 3-year jail term to former Union minister Dilip Ray in a coal scam case pertaining to irregularities in the allocation of a Jharkhand block in 1999, saying white collar crimes are "more dangerous" than ordinary ones because of the "damages inflicted on public morale". Special Judge Bharat Parashar also awarded 3-year jail terms to two senior officials of the ministry at that time.

Centre to state: Send data on Covid health workers by weekend

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

IN a mammoth preparation across the country for the much-awaited vaccination against Covid-19, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) has sent a circular to the Departments of Health and Family Welfare of all states and Union Territories, asking them to collect data of all frontline healthcare workers (FHWs) from government and private hospitals.

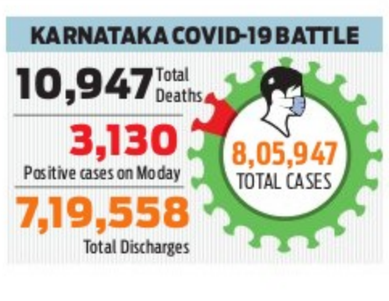
The Department of Health & Family Welfare, Karnataka, received the circular last weekend, which has been forwarded to all government and private hospitals, asking them to submit by this weekend the details of all healthcare workers, from Group D employees to top medical fraternity at their hospitals who are and have been on Covid duty, official sources said.

"The MoHFW is preparing a database of HCWs, defined as healthcare providers and other workers in healthcare settings (both government and private), who may be prioritised for receiving the Covid-19 vaccine," the letter from the Centre stated.

The vaccine will be administered to all the 1.3 billion Indians with frontline healthcare workers being on the top of the priority list.

India is hopeful of two vaccine candidates – Oxford University-AstraZeneca's 'Covishield' and the Russian 'Sputnik V' vaccine. P5

A health worker collects samples for testing at KR Market in Bengaluru on Monday | ASHISHKRISHNA HP



Relief for K'taka, as corona cases dip

RANJANI MADHAVAN @ Bengaluru

FROM a high of over 8,000 to 10,000 Covid cases daily in August, September and until mid-October, the virus appears to be slowing down, at least for now, in Karnataka.

In a sign of relief to citizens, government and overburdened health infrastructure, Karnataka reported 3,130 cases on Monday, taking its tally up to 8,05,947. The positivity rate has been steadily declining from over 12 per cent in September to 10.82 per cent as of October 26.

Munish Moudgil, in charge of state Covid war room, said, "It is because of high testing that lower positivity rate and lower new daily cases happen and not in spite of high testing. The lesson we have learnt is that high daily testing is the way to beat Covid, particularly RT-PCR, which holds the key to identify, control and reduce Covid. Even when the positivity rate and new daily cases fall, we should continue with high daily testing. This will prevent the second wave."

CONTINUED ON: P5

COVID IMPACT

Endosulfan victims face stipend delays

DIVYA CUTINHO @ Mangaluru

HUNDREDS of endosulfan victims are facing a hardship due to the irregular disbursal of monthly stipend amid the Covid-19 pandemic in Dakshina Kannada district. While victims with 60% and above deformities get a monthly stipend of ₹3,000, those with 25% and above deformities, get ₹1,500.

There are over 3,600 victims in Puttur, Belthangady, Sullia and other parts of the district who are entitled to various benefits from the government. Shridhar Gowda, a victim and president of Endosulfan Virodhi Horata Samiti of Kokkada, said that the monthly stipend is being disbursed irregularly. For many victims, it has been pending for months, he said.

"Officials say there are technical issues. It has been almost a year. Were they not able to fix the issues? With no stipend, no necessary facilities, how do these victims survive during this pandemic?" he asked. P5

'Cow slaughter law being misused'

SANA SHAKIL @ New Delhi

THE Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Cow Slaughter Act is being "misused" to implicate innocent persons, the Allahabad High Court recently observed, putting the state's law enforcement machinery under intense scrutiny.

In a recent order, the single-judge bench of Justice Siddharth observed, "Act is being misused against innocent persons. Whenever any meat is recovered, it is normally shown as cow meat (beef) without getting it examined or analysed by the Forensic Laboratory."

In most cases under this law, meat is not sent for analysis and accused persons continue to be in jail for an offence they may not have committed, Justice Siddharth said. He added that offences under this law have a maximum sentence of seven years.

The court was hearing a bail application of one Rahmuddin, accused of cow slaughter and sale of beef under Sections 3, 5 and 8 of the Act. P7

NEET counselling from today

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA @ Bengaluru

TO meet the November 30 deadline, the Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) will hold counselling for engineering seats (CET) and medical seats, secured through the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), simultaneously.

KEA Director Venkat Raju confirmed to *TNIE* that the authority will begin counselling for engineering (CET) students after the first round of NEET counselling for its all-India quota. NEET counselling begins on Tuesday and the first list of the all-India quota is likely to come out between November 6 and 12.

Under normal circumstances, counselling for engineering seats begins after the medical seats are filled. This is because, each year, a number of medical aspirants leave their engineering seats after they get a confirmation for medical seats. This affects engineering colleges as a number of seats are left vacant as these withdrawals occur after the final date of admissions.

Despite the simultaneous arrangement this year, it will be a win-win for students and engineering colleges, said Raju. "Counselling will be done in such a way that students who want to go for medical seats can opt for them, while those who, unfortunately, do not get medical seats can go for engineering," he added. P5

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
• Tuesday: 27/10/2020 • Year: Sarvari • Ayana: Dakshinayana
• Ritu: Sharad • Masa: Nija Ashwayuja • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Ekadashi 11.43 am
• Nakshatra: Sathabhisha 8.37 am • Moon in Meena Rashi • Rahukaala: 03:00 am to 04:30 am
• Gulikakala: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm • Yamaganda: 09:00 am to 10:30 am

MYSURU WEATHER
MIN 19°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST
More sun than clouds

Sunrise 6.11 am
Sunset 5.55 pm
Moonrise 3.30 pm
Moonset 2.47 am

02 BENGALURU TUESDAY 27.10.2020 newindianexpress.com

1 A sofa dumped outside after the Hosakerehalli stormwater drain and water overflowed into houses 2 A woman leaves documents out in the sun 3 Residents hang their clothes out to dry as the sun came out on Monday | MEGHANA SASTRY

FLOOD, DREAD & TEARS

Residents recount horror as heavy rain led to SWD breach which flooded their houses

MEGHANA SASTRY @Bengaluru

Three days after heavy rain led to a stormwater drain breach in Hosakerehalli on Friday morning, residents are still trying to clear the muck and filth it left in its wake. From flooded homes in Dattatreyanagar, Guru Dutt Nagar and Hosakerehalli, each has a horror tale to narrate.

Gayathri, like the others, locked herself into the safety of her house. But the door lock was jammed, and she had to sit on the highest point in her house, waiting for policemen to break open the door and rescue her.

Bhagyashree hung on to a window, while her daughter stood on a cupboard, to save themselves from the swirling waters, until her son brought a tyre to get them out. She crawled out on to the roof with the help of her sari and the tyre, and immediately returned to save her daughter.

Bhagyashree, who works as a domestic help, had struggled to buy books, shoes and smartphones for online classes for her children, studying in class 6 and 10. Everything got submerged. "How can I buy them phones and books when we don't have basic necessities such as clothes?" she weeps.

Ravi, a delivery agent with Zomato, lives with his aged mother, wife and two kids. "When the water started rising, we decided to open the door, with no clue of the situation outside. The force of the water broke the door, and it was like the floodgates of a dam were opened. We started drowning, and I was wondering who to save first. I grabbed my mother and wife by their heads bobbing in the water, but couldn't spot my children. I somehow managed to find them all and dragged them to a corner near the door, and started screaming for help. Our neighbours on the first floor rushed to help us and that's how we made it out alive." His motorbike was also washed into the house, but with no mobility, he has lost his job.

Yellama, an aged woman who lives alone, wanders the streets of Dattatreya Layout, hoping that her grandson will come for her, but in vain.

Though Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa announced a compensation of Rs 25,000, it has reached very few of them.

They spent the past two days washing and drying their belongings, desperate to get rid of the stink of drain water, and salvaging school books, documents and shoes.

How can I buy them phones and books when we don't have basic necessities such as clothes?

Bhagyashree, domestic help, who struggled to buy them for her children

As the water level reached my neck, I stood with my 25-day-old daughter on my head, waiting for a miracle. My neighbour rescued me, now I'm living with them

— Lakshmi, new mother

I live alone. Each time a politician comes by, I take my Aadhaar card to ask them to add my name to the beneficiary list, but they just brush me aside

— Lakshmi, domestic help

CRACK TEAM WILL TAP GOLDEN HOUR, SOLVE CYBERCRIME

PREEJA PRASAD @Bengaluru

WITH a dismal track record of solving less than 10% of cybercrime cases in the past two years, Bengaluru police and the State government have decided to put in place resources and procedures required to solve the high number of crimes.

Police Commissioner Kamal Pant said that a crack technical team of two or four members would be brought in to effectively utilise the crucial golden hour -- the gap between occurrence of the crime and time taken to report it to police.

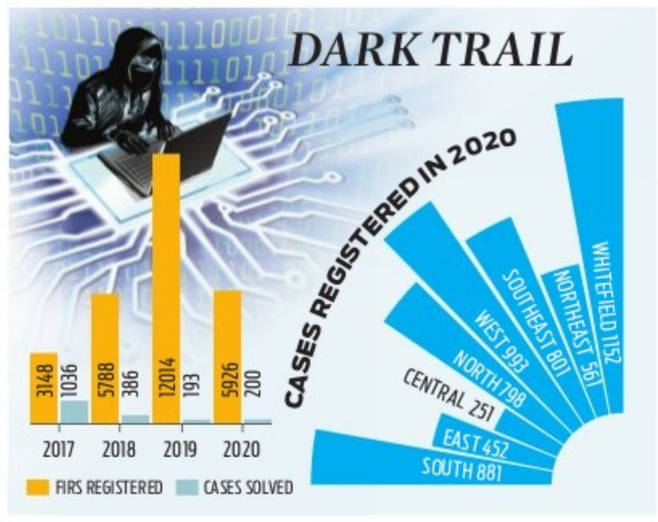
"Time is of the essence when it comes to cybercrime. The technical team will be able to track the transfer of money and location of the person behind the crime. They will also train our officers," Pant said.

According to a source, the team could be in place in a week's time.

At a meeting with senior police officers recently, Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai said police would work with banks to quicken response time, and put in place a system where police and banking networks would be activated when a crime is reported.

Additional Commissioner (West) Soumendu Mukherjee said they were working to shorten the time it takes to register a case. Currently, complainants must physically go to a station to get an FIR registered.

"We are thinking of fine-tuning the system so we can get cases registered more seamlessly on real-time basis. A dedicated team to assist in this is also very crucial during that golden hour. Legal and procedural requirements will need to be looked into. Lack of security on each payment gateway is also there. We will require more trained manpower to address the growing cases," Mukherjee said.



Fraud cases top list

95% of cybercrimes are financial frauds. Police at the eight Cyber Economic Narcotics stations confirmed that frauds on OLX and debit/credit card scams are the highest number in the city. "Recently, a man lost Rs 10 lakh while placing an order online. On average, we register 6-10 FIRs every day," said Renuka, CEN (South) inspector.

Curiously, most victims are educated people, and techie-hub Whitefield has the highest number of cases in the city, at 1,152.

EXPRESS READ

Advocacy campaign on 7 themes for urban planning by Smart City

Bengaluru: Bengaluru Smart City Ltd, a public concern, is organising an advocacy campaign about World Cities Day from October 25-31. The campaign focuses on building a consensus around sustainable urbanism. The concern aims to introduce seven themes that are critical for urban planning and building cities. The themes include accessibility, inclusivity/sustainability, resilience/tolerance, creativity/innovation, originality/heritage and equity, which will be part of its various projects in Bengaluru's Central Business District. To engage local communities, Bengaluru Smart City also plans to organise a plantation drive on October 31. ENS

Target set for BBMP marshals to book cases

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

MR BBMP Marshal, you have to book 20 cases, otherwise you will be pulled up. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, in an order signed by Manish Moudgil, secretary and zonal coordinator of south zone, stated on Monday that BBMP Marshals have to book at least 20 cases against those not wearing masks in public.

Moudgil has told Somashekhar Patil, supervisor of Marshals in South Zone, that if the target is not met, action will be taken against him under the Disaster Management Act 2005 without further notice.

He has reminded the Marshals that they have to ensure that people don't move around without wearing masks and those violating the norm should be fined Rs 250.

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa recently reduced the fine from Rs 1,000 to Rs 250 for not wearing masks in public places.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

27th October: Is astrology a science or a religion? This question is asked by many of the top people in the world's best universities. What I say is that it doesn't matter! Religion and science are both ways of inquiring into the truth. They adopt different perspectives but both are useful and it makes no sense to argue about which one is best. Each has its place!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
If there's any way in which you can develop your social contacts, do so now, while the stars are encouraging friendship. In your eyes, the most attractive people will be those who can take responsibility for you. But, if you rely on others, you'll surrender control. Is that really worth it? Perhaps not.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
It's more than likely that career worries could be out of place. Your concerns seem to be based around doubts as to whether you can handle prospective responsibilities. All you have to do is believe in yourself. After all, if you have faith in your own powers you'll exude confidence and attract others.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You are really perfectly justified in feeling quietly optimistic about the future, but make sure that your confidence is firmly founded in plans which are practical as well as original. The best way forward is to concentrate on increasing your skills.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
There are many indications as to what the combined influence of friends' and family members' demands will be on your private life. The problem is that there are too many! The advantage is that so many doors are now set to open that you can pick and choose.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
It still seems somewhat inevitable that you'll have to put others' interests first. There's no reason why this shouldn't be thoroughly enjoyable, if only because it gives you a chance to relax a little. Frankly, you could do with a change of scene!

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Your classic qualities of self-sacrifice and service to humanity are straining for recognition. It's important to draw a line between being genuinely helpful to others and allowing them to unfairly exploit you. It's all a matter of being fair - but firm.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
There's more than one powerful lunar alignment around the corner, and if you want to prepare for the coming upheaval now, press ahead with all personal plans. Arrange romantic encounters, finalise social ambitions and get your priorities in order.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
It's time for optimism - and there's no point in worrying that the worst will happen. An unusual amount of helpful planetary activity in your chart gives you every reason to believe that at last your hopes and wishes will be granted. You may put your family first and everything else second.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
You should have little trouble making the most of the positive trends that are helping to revitalise your life at the moment. You may talk to others, especially people you live with, about your feelings, and deal with all those feelings of frustration at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
It's difficult to know just what to do for the best. Personal and family affairs are still soaking up too much of your valuable resources. It's all a question of being disciplined and knowing when to say 'no', including when to say it to yourself!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
You still seem to be firmly in the driving seat, and today is an ideal moment to implement sweeping changes at home, hopefully while other people are looking the opposite way. You should care for partners' interests as best you can, especially if they have been good to you in the past.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
This period is partly about action, but also about dreams. Could this therefore be a day for fantasy? The answer is 'yes', although you'll have a wonderful way of giving your visions practical form. Actually, as long as you believe in what you're doing, you're a great deal more practical than many people think.

THE PHANTOM

KADHA AND I LIVE TOGETHER AND GO TO SCHOOL TOGETHER....NOW TO FIND JOBS TOGETHER. SO I CAN ALWAYS BE THERE FOR HER!
SO, DAD, JUST A THOUGHT... IS COLONEL WORLIGU STILL GAGA FOR GUGU LEE?
DE PAUL + NAVAL?
Falk

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

BUMSTEAD!! WHAT'S WITH THIS SOCIAL DISTANCING TAPE?!!
KINDLY KEEP 12 FOOT DISTANCE
BESIDES, IT'S "KEEP AWAY 6 FEET," NOT 12!!
ONE CAN NEVER BE TOO CAREFUL, BOSS

LOCKHORNS

DENNIS THE MENACE

Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SUDOKU

		5		9				
4		9						
	2	8		7		3		5
5		4			1			
			8		9			
			5			2		4
7		3		8		4	2	
						6		3
				2		5		

EVIL

- Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.
- Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

8	1	9	4	5	7	6	3	2
2	4	5	3	6	9	7	1	8
6	3	7	8	2	1	4	9	5
5	9	6	7	4	3	8	2	1
1	7	3	2	8	6	9	5	4
4	8	2	1	9	5	3	6	7
3	6	8	5	1	4	2	7	9
9	2	1	6	7	8	5	4	3
7	5	4	9	3	2	1	8	6

JUMBLE

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RYOEF

VOLNE

DLOYEM

RIPITS

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek
I've got another one!
I need to upgrade my equipment.
You got your money's worth.
THE FISHING ROD AND REEL PERFORMED SO WELL BECAUSE THEY WERE ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE _____ (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: GUMMY IMPEL SHRINK SALARY
Answer: The soldiers building the new Army eating facility were — MAKING A MESS

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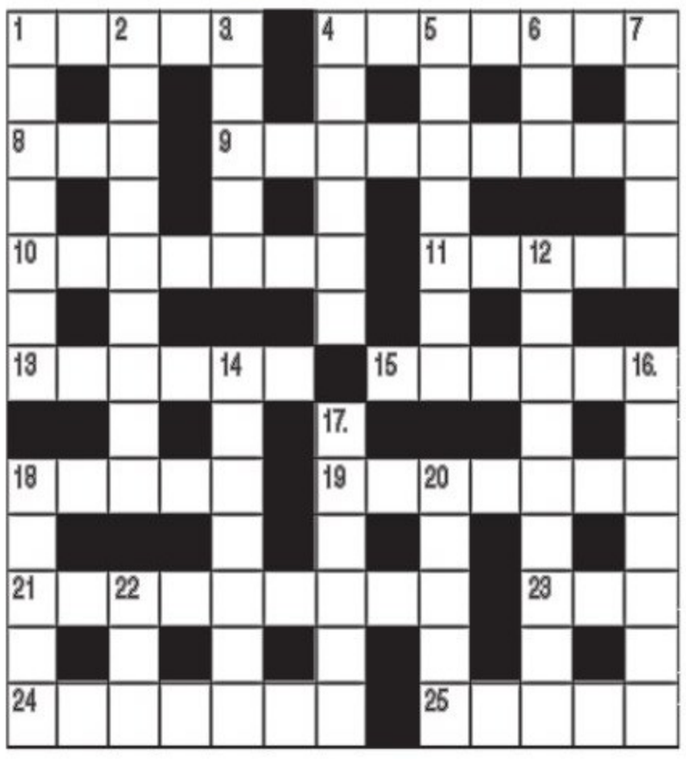
CROSS WORD



ACROSS

1 Return works of deception (5)
4 Stop a girl working behind the bar (7)
8 Spirit shown by rebel fighters (3)
9 The canter adjusted for a jump (9)
10 A lot I've to disturb and disrupt (7)
11 Gems in a ring belonging to a friend (5)
13 Games left on board (6)
15 Insult by leaving on purpose (6)
18 Peru's new money (5)
19 Girl I took on for a job (7)
21 A worker on a plane? (9)
23 It's very cold when I go to church (3)
24 Survey the whole lot with a girl (7)
25 Mother and her boy in the building trade (5)

DOWN

1 Bundles to haul on board (7)
2 Blue and not feeling well (3-6)
3 Girl fared badly (5)
4 Swimmer out of breath (6)
5 Say something quickly and stagger away (4,3)
6 Refuse to observe a request for silence (3)
7 Fruit goes out of fashion (5)
12 Drinks for parties, if stirred (9)
14 There's a girl's name put together here (7)
16 Prison for a debt-collector who has gone wrong (7)
17 In which to find a forger's block (6)
18 Quietly acts on agreements (5)
20 Pushing forwards (5)
22 Batter with butter (3)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Confiscate, 8 Cater, 9 Raiment, 10 Naivety, 11 Asset, 12 In situ, 14 Bolero, 17 Titan, 19 Implore, 21 Obeying, 22 Nails, 23 Hand-in-hand.

Down: 2 Obtains, 3 Force, 4 Strays, 5 Agitato, 6 Evens, 7 Stationers, 8 Conviction, 13 Tension, 15 Erosion, 16 Nilgai, 18 Teeth, 20 Punch.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A GOVERNMENT OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Regional Office : Bengaluru – East

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officers (details mentioned below) will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is" on **30.11.2020**, for recovery of dues with further interest and cost thereon due to the Canara bank.

Details and full description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any:

The details are as under:

Sl. No.	Borrower Name/ Description of the movable / immovable assets	Loan amount due (Contractual as on date) In INR	Branch Name	Possession Type	Reserve Price In Lakhs	EMD AMT In Lakhs	Incremental value at the Bid In INR	Authorized Officer / Service Provider name and contact number	Account details for remitting EMD And IFSC Code
1.	**Borrower : Mr. Balakrishna, Address:**Residential building bearing site no.25, formed in converted sy no.38/1, Khata no.96, situated at Junnasandra village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore covering an area of 600sq ft. **Joint Obligant Mrs.Yogita B K Address:**Residential building bearing site no.25, formed in converted sy no.38/1, Khata no.96, situated at Junnasandra village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore covering an area of 600sq ft **Property on Sale:** Residential building bearing site no.25, formed in converted sy no.38/1, Khata no.96, situated at Junnasandra Village, Varthur Hobli Bangalore covering an area of 600sq ft Boundary: East : Private property, West : Road, North : Site 24, South : Site 26.	1907087.52	Doddakana halli	Physical	**49.77**	**4.98** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on **26/11/2020** Property visit with prior appointment on 26/11/2020 at 10am	10,000.00	M Swati Sinha 080-28441677	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
2.	**Borrower : M/s Sri Bheemas Garden, Address:** No.648E Srinivas Nilaya Sarjapur Main Road Kaikondrahalli Bangalore 560035, **Properietor :Mr. Trilokesh C . Address:** No.648E Srinivas Nilaya, Sarjapur Main Road, Kaikondrahalli Bangalore 560035, **Guarantor : M Aruna, Address:** No.648E Srinivas Nilaya, Sarjapur Main Road, Kaikondrahalli, Bangalore 560035, **Property on sale:** Residential Vacant site bearing no.17, sy no. 483 & 485, old khata no. 557, new khata no.2864/557/17 Jigani Hobli, Anekal Bangalore having an area of 2400 sq ft. Boundary: East : Site 11, West : Road, North : Site 16, South : Site 18.	6086256.00	Doddakana halli	Physical	**30.24**	**3.03** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on **26/11/2020** Property visit with prior appointment on 26/11/2020 at 10am	10,000.00	M Swati Sinha 080-28441677	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
3.	**Borrower : M/s Red Blooming Pvt Ltd., Address:**No.648E Srinivas Nilaya, Sarjapur Main Road Kaikondrahalli Bangalore 560035 **Director 1: Mr.Trilokesh C, Address:** No.648E Srinivas Nilaya, Sarjapur Main Road , Kaikondrahalli, Bangalore-560035 **Director 2 : Mr.Chaitan, Address:**No.648E Srinivas Nilaya Sarjapur Main Road, Kaikondrahalli, Bnagalore 560035 **Property on sale:** Residential Vacant site bearing no.10, sy no. 483 & 485, old khata no. 557, new khata no.2864/557/10 and 2864/557/11 Jigani Hobli, Anekal Bangalore each having an area of 2400sq ft.Boundary:East : Road West : Site 18, North : Site 11, South : Road	4343172.37	Doddakana halli	Physical	**33.48**	**3.35** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on **26/11/2020** Property visit with prior appointment on **26/11/2020** at 10am	10,000.00	M Swati Sinha 080-28441677	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
4.	**Borrower: M/s Red Blooming Pvt Ltd., Address:**No.648E Srinivas Nilaya,Sarjapur Main Road Kaikondrahalli, Bangalore-560035, **Director 1:Mr.Trilokesh C. Address:**No.648E Srinivas Nilaya, Sarjapur Main Road, Kaikondrahalli, Bangalore 560035, **Director 2:Mr.Chaitan, Address**: No.648E Srinivas Nilaya, Sarjapur Main Road, Kaikondrahalli, Bangalore 560035, **Property on sale:** Residential Vacant site bearing no.11, sy no. 483 & 485, old khata no. 557, new khata no.2864/557/10 and 2864/557/11, Jigani Hobli, Anekal, Bangalore, each having an area of 2400sq ft.Boundary:East : Road, West : Site 17, North : Site 12, South : Site 10.	4343172.37	Doddakana halli	Physical	**30.24**	**3.03** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on **26/11/2020** Property visit with prior appointment on 26/11/2020 at 10am	10,000.00	M Swati Sinha 080-28441677	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
5.	**Borrower Sri Sai Departmental Store, Proprietor: N Kiran, Co borrower/Guarantor: Mr.Nataraja M Manjula, Address:** #8, 14 th Block, Nadisan Kiran, Adugodi, Bangalore 560035, **Property details:**Residential Land and building bearing no. 34& 32/2, new no.51/76, near Yellamma Temple, off Sarjapura Road, Doddakanahalli Village, Off Sarjapur Road, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore 560035 covering an area of 431.25sq ft, Boundary:East : Road, West : Munivenkatappa's Property, North : Private Property, South : G Shamanna's Property	3445663.99	Doddakana halli	Physical	**17.18**	**1.72** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on **26/11/2020** Property visit with prior appointment on 26/11/2020 at 10 am	10,000.00	M Swati Sinha 080-28441677	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
6.	**Borrower : Sanjesh Parasmal Shah, Address.**No 15, Anjappa Bhavan, Chikkannama temple street Joripet, cubbonpet cross, joripet Bangalore 560002. **Co Borrower: Indira Devi Shah, Address.:** No 15, Anjappa Bhavan, Chikkannama temple street Joripet, cubbonpet cross joripet, Bangalore 560002. **Co Borrower : Asha Shah, Address.**No 15,Anjappa Bhavan, Chikkannama temple street Joripet, Cubbonpet cross joripet Bangalore 560002. **Property on Sale:** Residential Site No 31/ of eastwhile Deevatige Ramanahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South, now within the limits of BBMP and bearing Muncipal Site No 14, 1st Cross Road (PID No 41-22-14) new PID No 158-W0046-3 , Roashan Nagar, Deepanjali Nagar (Ward-158) Bnagalore- 560026, Having An Area Of 2400sqft With Boundaries: East by Site No. 15, West: by Site No. 13, North by Railway Property, South by Road.	9889863.00	Kormanagala layout	Physical	**91.80**	**9.18** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on **26/11/2020** Property visit with prior appoint ment on 26/11/2020 at 10 am	10,000.00	Y D Indira 080-25522322	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
7.	**Borrower : Rakesh Pandey & Aarati Pandey Address:** No. 175 Flat no. 8 Sri Lakshmi Devi Nilaya Muneshwara temple road, 1st phase 3rd cross, Bangalore - 560085. **Property** : Residential Property Site #15, Khata No PID No 41-22-15. New PID No 158-W1145-16 Formed Sy #31/1, 1st cross, Deepanjali Nagara, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru 560026 covering area 2000sqft. Boundary:East by Property no 16, West by Property 14, North by Railway property, South by Road.	8850904.79	Kormanagala	Physical	**85.4**	**8.54** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 26/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 24/11/2020 at 10am	10,000.00	Y D Indira 080-25522322	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
8.	**Borrower : M/S Asha Hospital & Trauma centre Address:** J C Circle T G Extension Hoskote Taluk Bangalore Rural 562114. **Proprietor :Dr. D K Srinivasa Address :** J C Circle T G Extension Hoskote Taluk Bangalore Rural 562114. **Property on Sale :**Residential / commercial Vacant land bearing khata no 3212/2804/3486, Thimma Gowda Extension, Hosakote Town measuring 6844sqft, Boundary: East: Shadimahal building, West: Private property, North: Mission hospital road, South: Private property	20553292.77	SME Mahadevapura	Physical	**246.39**	**24.65** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on **27/11/2020,** Property visit with prior appointment on 21/11/2020 between 2pm-4pm	10,000.00	Vishnu Rawat 080-28513069	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
9.	**Borrower Sri. GANAJIT SARMA,** S/o Bahendranath Sharma No G-2, 1st cross, VIII main, Near Shriram hospital, Viveknagar , Bengaluru 560076 **Guarantor Sri.L Ramamurthy** S/o LakshmaiahNo 5/10, 1st cross Indragandhi street, Ulsoor, Bengaluru-560008. **Property on sale:** Residential Flat All that piece and parcel of Flat No. F-02 having a total built up area of 1170Sq. Ft. In the first floor of "Manju'sAnugraha" apartmentand bounded as follows: East by: Plot No 3, West by: flat No: F-03 and plot No 1, North by: road, South by: Flat NO: F-01 and private property.	23365422.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**25.64**	**2.56** EMD submission before 5.00pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 19/11/2020 at 10 am	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
10.	**Borrower: SUMITHRA M.,** E25 Sakamma hanumanthappa layout, Kaval Byrasandra, RT Nagar, Bangalore 560032, **Guarantor :Purnima Kumar** W/o Padma Kumar # 91/1, 5th cross Lakshminarayanapuram, Nagappa block, Bengaluru-560021. **Property on sale: Residential Flat** All that piece and parcel of flat T03 having a total built up area 970sq ft in the 3rd floor of Manju's Anugraha Apartment constructed at site no 2 under survey no 197/6 and new BBMP no29 and ID no.83-362-29 situated at kagdaspura, KR puram Hobli, Bangalore East taluk, Bengalore- 560093 in the proportionate undivided share of land property of site 02 in this works out to 260.58Sq. ft	19676511.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**21.59**	**2.16** EMD submission before 5.00pm on **25/11/2020** Property visit with prior appointment on **19/11/2020 at 10am**	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
11.	**Borrower: Smt. V.DAKSHAYANI** D/o D. Venu Gopal #45, Nethaji Ward, Coles park, Benson town (Frazer town), Bengaluru-560005. **Guarantor : Sri.L Ramamurthy** S/o Lakshmaiah, No 5/10, 1st cross Indragandhi street, Ulsoor, Bengaluru-560008 **Property on sale: Residential Flat** : All that piece and parcel of Flat No. F-01 having a total built up area of 1020 Sq. Ft. In the first floor of "Manju's Anugraha" apartment bounded as follows: East by: Plot No 3, West by: lift & staircase and plot No 1, North by: Flat NO: F-02, South by: private property.	18728833.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**22.58**	**2.26** EMD submission before 5.00pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on **19/11/2020 at 10am**	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
12.	**Borrower Sri. P.SASI KUMAR** S/o V Pasupathy # 410, 9th A main, Ist block, HRBR, Kalyannagar, Bengaluru-560043. **Guarantor Smt. P.B.VANI** # 1013 near Kabir Ashram, Dodda Bommasandra main road, Vidyaranyapura, Bengaluru-560097. **Property on sale: Residential Flat** All that piece and parcel of Flat No. S-03 having a total built up area of 970 Sq. Ft. In the second floor of "Manju's Anugraha" apartment bounded as follows: East by: flat no S-02 and Plot No 3, West by: plot No 1, North by: road, South by: lift & staircase and flat no: S-01.	18415025.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**21.26**	**2.13** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on **25/11/2020** Property visit with prior appoint ment on **19/11/2020 at 10am**	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
13.	**Borrower: Sri. BRENDAN BENTO** S/o Sri. Benti Mendonca # 959, Scorpion, Chikkananjundappa road, RS Palya, Marutisevanagar, Bengaluru-560033. **Guarantor Sri. SUHAS RATNAKAR CHAVAN,** No 157, 5th main, 5th cross, Mico-layout, BTM II stage, Bengaluru-560076 Property on sale: Residential Flat All that piece and parcel of Flat No. S-01 having a total built up area of 1020 Sq. Ft. In the second floor of "Manju'sAnugraha" apartment bounded as follows: East by: Plot No 3, West by: lift & staircase and plot No 1, North by: Flat NO: S-02, South by: private property.	19945279.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**22.40**	**2.24** EMD submission before 5.00pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 19/11/2020 at 10am	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
14.	**Borrower: P B VANI,** 1013 Near Kabir Ashram Vidyaranyapura Bangalore 560097. **Guarantor: SUMITHRA,** E25 Sakamma hanumanthappa layout, Kaval Byrasandra, RT Nagar Bangalore 560032 **Property on sale: Residential Flat** : All that piece and parcel of flat T01 having a total built up area 1020sq ft in the 3rd floor of Manju's Anugraha Apartment constructed at site no. 2 under survey no 197/6 and new BBMP no. 29 and ID no.83-362-29 situated at kagdaspura, KR puram Hobli, Bangalore East taluk, Bengalore560093 in the proportionate undivided share of land property of site 02 in this works out to 260.58Sq. ft	19100278.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**22.28**	**2.23** EMD submission before 5.00pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 19/11/2020 at 10am	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
15.	**Borrower : Sri. B MURALI** S/o TR Balasubramanian # 875, 9th cross, 16th main, BTM layout, 2nd stage, Bengaluru-560076 **Guarantor: Smt. V.DAKSHAYANI** D/o D. Venu Gopal #45, Nethaji Ward, Coles park, Benson town (Frazer town), Bengaluru-560005 **Property on sale: Residential Flat** All that piece and parcel of Flat No. S-02 having a total built up area of 1170 Sq. Ft. In the second floor of "Manju's Anugraha" apartment and bounded as follows: East by: Plot No 3, West by: flat no: S-03 and plot No 1, North by: road, South by: flat No: S-01 and private property.	21064375.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**25.35**	**2.54** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 19/11/2020 at 10 am	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
16.	**Borrower: Smt. POORNIMA KUMAR** W/o Padma Kumar # 91/1, 5th cross Lakshminarayanapuram, Nagappa block, Bengaluru-560021. **Guarantor Sri. P. SASI KUMAR** S/o V Pasupathy # 410, 9th A main, Ist block, HRBR, Kalyannagar, Bengaluru-560043 **Property on sale: Residential Flat** All that piece and parcel of Flat No. F-03 having a total built up area of 970 Sq. Ft. In the first floor of "Manju's Anugraha" apartment bounded as follows: East by: flat no F-02 and Plot No 3, West by: plot No 1, North by: road, South by: lift & staircase and flat no: F-01	19659565.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**21.55**	**2.16** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 19/11/2020 at 10 am	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
17.	**Borrower: MANOHAR R K,** No7 4th cross Saraswatipuram Ulsoor Bangalore 560008 **Guarantor: Brendan Bento** S/o Sri. Benti Mendonca # 959, Scorpion, Chikkananjundappa road, RS Palya, Marutisevanagar, Bengaluru-560033 **Property on sale: Residential Flat** All that piece and parcel of flat T02 having a total built up area 1170sq ft in the 3rd floor of Manju's Anugraha Apartment constructed at site no2 under survey no 197/6 and new BBMP no29 and ID no.83-362-29 situated at kagdaspura, KR puram Hobli, Bangalore East taluk, Bengalore- 560093 in the proportionate undivided share of land property of site 02 in this works out to 260.58Sq. ft	21749752.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**25.35**	**2.54** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 19/11/2020 at 10am	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
18.	**M/s Krishna Cement Block Property on sale: Vacant plot Owner : Vijay Shekar, Address:** Site 7 , Vallabhanagar, Konankunte cross Kanakpura road Bangalore 560062 having area of 2836 sqft bounded by East : Private property, West : 30ft road, North : Remaining of site 7, South : Site 8	19390027.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**149.5**	**14.59** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 19/11/2020 at 10 am	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/ Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
19.	**M/s H M S Corporation, Property on sale: Vacant plot Owner : Vijay Shekar, Address:**Site 9 Vallabhanagar, Konankunte cross Kanakpura road Bangalore 560062 having area of 2555 sqft bounded by East : Private property, West : 30ft road, North : Site 8, South : Site 10.	16126696.00	Indiranagar	Physical	**167.5**	**16.75** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 19/11/2020 at 10 am	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
20.	**M/s Kartar Corporation, Property on sale:** Land & Building (under construction without any lock & key) **Owner : Vijay Shekar, Address :**Site 18, Vallabhanagar Konankunte cross, Kanakpura road, Bangalore 560062 having area of 2860 sqft bounded by East : Site 19 & 20, West : Site 17, North : Private property, South : 30ft road.	22902062.21	Indiranagar	Physical	**167.5**	**16.75** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 25/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 19/11/2020 at 10 am	10,000.00	Manoj K Singh 080-25286759	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
21.	**Borrower Lakshmi Enterprises, Proprietor:Mr. Chimanlal R. Address:**No 78-80 PVR Main Road Jolly Mohalla Bangalore 560053 **Co-Borrower/Guarantor :1. M Kanya Bai, Address:** No 78-80 PVR Main Road Jolly Mohalla Bangalore 560053 **2. Mr. Mohan Lal, Address:** Sy No. 160/2A Munivenkattappa Reddy Building, Hosur Main Road, Opp to Biocon India Limited, Bangalore 560229. **Property on sale:** Commercial plot bearing no 174 PID no.29-1-174, Bashyam Road, Cottonpet, Ward no-29, Bangalore 560099. Covering an area of 900 sq.ft Boundary: East: Cottonpet Road, West: Property No. 173, North:Property No. 175, South: Conservancy.	5090990.36	Bomma sandra Main	Physical	**121.5**	**12.15** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 26/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 24/11/2020 at 12 pm - 5 pm	10,000.00	Usha R. 080-27835867	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/ off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-AuctionPlatform.
22.	**Borrower M/S Manasa Hospitality, Proprietor : Shekar V, Guarantor : Manasa R., Address:** No V2, 4th floor, 3rd Cross, KSSIDC electronic City Phase 1, Bangalore 560100, **VS logistics Proprietor : Manasa R., Address:** No V2, 4th floor, 3rd Cross, KSSIDC electronic City Phase 1, Bangalore 560100 **Property on sale:** Property bearing no. AA02, khata no.1630, 'Concorde Silicon Valley', Neeladri Road, KSSIDC, Doddathoguru village, begur, hobli, Bangalore south East by Road, West by Site No. 18 & 19, North By Site No.1, South By Site No.3, Having an area of 3874.00 sqft	66763123.00	Electronic city	Physical	**270.00**	**27.00** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 26/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 26/11/2020 at 10 am - 5 pm	10,000.00	Bharathi Vasanth 080-28522397	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/ off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
23.	**Borrower: M/s Annapurneshwari Enterprises, Partners 1.Smt Uma Devi** W/o H S Basavaraju residing at Haragadde Village &Psot, Jiganihobli , Anekal Taluk, Bangalore – 562125 **2. Sri Udaya Kumar S N,** S/o Nagaraju, Residing at No.1837, 62th Cross, Vidya Nagar, Near Sub-Registrar Office, Sarjapura Village & Post, Bangalore. **Property on sale:** Property bearing site No.1074, Assesment No.1070/C, e-Khatha No. 150200102300101752, conversion No.ALN.SR. 14/1988-89, Sarjapura Town, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District in the name of Mr. Nagaraju	10728267.49	Sarjapura	Physical	**96.00**	**9.60** EMD submission before 5.00 pm on 26/11/2020 Property visit with prior appointment on 26/11/2020 at 10 am - 5 pm	10,000.00	Mrs.Geetanjali Srivastava 9449862018	Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD wallet: Online/ off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.

Other terms and conditions:

a) Auction/bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website (https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp). Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.
b) The property will be sold for the price which is more than the Reserve Price and the participating bidders may improve their offer further during auction process.
c) For downloading further details, Process, Compliance and terms & conditions, Please visit :
a.https://www.canarabank.com,
b. website address of our e-Auction service provider:- https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp
Bidder may visit https://www.ibapi.in where "Guidelines" for bidders are available with educational videos. Bidders have to complete following formalities well in Advance:
Step 1: Bidder/purchaser Registration: Bidder to register on e-auction Platform (link given above) using his mobile number and email id
Step 2: KYC Verification: Bidder to upload requisite KYC documents. KYC documents shall be verified by e-auction service provider (may take 2 working days).
Step 3: Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD Wallet: Online/off-line transfer of fund using NEFT/Transfer, using challan generated on e-Auction Platform.
Step 4: Bidding Process and Auction Results: Interested Registered Bidders can bid online on e-Auction Platform after completing Step 1 , 2 and 3.
Please note that Step 1 to 3 should be completed by bidder well in advance, before e-Auction date.
Indenting bidders shall hold a valid digital signature certificate and email address.
Bids shall be submitted through online procedure only.
e) After payment of the EMD amount, the intending bidders should submit a copy of the following documents/details on or before **26.11.2020** 5.00 pm, to Canara Bank, Regional Office East, Bengaluru by hand or by email.
i)acknowledgement receipt thereof with UTR No.
ii)Photocopies of PAN Card, ID Proof and Address proof. However, successful bidder would have to produce these documents in original to the Bank at the time of making payment of balance amount of 25% of bid amount.
iii) Bidders Name, Contact No, Address, E Mail Id.
f) Auction price to be submitted shall be above the Reserve Price, as mentioned above. Bidders shall improve their offers in multiplies of Rs.10,000.00 (The amount can be decided by the Authorised Officer depending upon the value of the property with a minimum of Rs. 10000.00 as incremental value). The bidder who submits the highest bid (above the Reserve price) on closure of 'Online' auction shall be declared as successful bidder. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the successful bidder, subject to confirmation of the same by the secured creditor.
g) The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/her as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the saleprice, the deposit made by him shall be forfeited by the Authorised Officer without any notice and property shall forthwith be put up for sale again.
h) For sale proceeds of Rs.50,00,000/- (Fifty Lakh Only) and above, the successful bidder will have to deduct TDS at the rate 1% on the Sale proceeds and submit the original receipt of TDS certificate to the Bank.
i) All charges for conveyance, stamp duty/GST registration charges etc., as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidder only.
j) Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof.
k) In case there are bidders who do not have access to the internet but interested in participating the e-auction, they can approach concerned Circle office or contact branch who, as a facilitating centre, shall make necessary arrangements.
l) For further details contact branches at the number given above
SPECIAL INSTRUCTION/CAUTION Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest . Neither Canara Bank nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, Power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder or vendor in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements/alternatives such as back –up, power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully

Date: 27.10.2020
Place: Bangalore

Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

HealthOptim, a mobile app that serves as a digital preventive healthcare platform, has introduced a new feature that measures the user's vulnerability to Covid.

For Cong, loss in RR Nagar, close race in Sira

Party's report shows Kusuma not accepted, Muniratna still popular; JDS eating into party's vote share

ANUSHA RAVI @Bengaluru

BENGALURU Rural MP DK Suresh may have made bypolls to Rajarajeshwari Nagar assembly seat a personal fight, but with one week to go for polling, the party's internal assessment suggests a probable heavy loss here.

In Sira, the Congress' assessment puts it neck-and-neck with BJP, a party that has never won this assembly seat. The worries of the Congress have only increased with the JDS campaign picking up pace in Sira, where the two parties have historically been at loggerheads.

Sources in the Congress suggest that paradropping of H Kusuma as a candidate in Rajarajeshwari Nagar has complicated matters, with local cadres unable to connect with her, and vice-versa. Muniratna's popularity in the constituency, as well as the BJP being in power in the state, is proving to be a challenge. While convention suggests that bypolls, in general, favour the ruling party, Muniratna's probability of becoming a minister in the BS Yediyurappa cabinet, if elected, has made the Rajarajeshwari Nagar poll all the more difficult for Congress. As on Monday — voting is a week away — the Congress anticipates a loss with a margin of 25,000-35,000 votes.

In Sira, the Congress hopes to turn the tide in its favour, after KPCC President DK Shivakumar's scheduled campaign starts on Tuesday. Shivakumar is expected to meet grassroots level leaders who jumped to the BJP, and woo them back. The BJP has deployed eight in-charge leaders, including two Deputy Chief Ministers for Sira, in a caste combination that covers not just dominant communities, but includes leaders who can bring sub-caste, sub-category voters on board.

The very fact that Congress' internal assessment puts it neck-and-neck with the BJP, and not the JDS, shows the deep inroads the saffron party has made in a seat it hasn't won before.

The Congress is banking on candidate TB Jayachandra's work as former MLA and minister during consecutive terms from the seat. KPCC President DK Shivakumar is also said to be convinced that leaders like Rajanna, G Parameshwara and Siddaramaiah will put their differences aside and work as a unit in the seat.

The JDS campaign, that was barely taking off until last week, has seen a sudden vigorous shake-up led by party patriarch HD Deve Gowda, and that worries the Congress. Although candidates of all three parties are Vokkaligas, the JDS is likely to eat into the Congress party's target voters indirectly, helping the BJP consolidate its base.

Congress candidate for RR Nagar Kusuma H campaigns in Bengaluru on Monday

Vote fixing rampant in polls: JDS spokesman

Bengaluru: "BJP leaders are handing out set-top boxes to voters, while Congress leaders are using the caste factor. This is a greater threat than the coronavirus," charged JDS spokesman and former MLC Saravana. He said that just like with match fixing, there has been vote fixing in these elections, alleging that both national parties have violated the poll code. He alleged that BJP's Muniratna defected from the Congress to the BJP for a 'consideration,' and that similar allegations on social media against JDS RR Nagar candidate V Krishnamurthy are merely slander. **ENS**

Congress complaint against Muniratna for set-top box distribution

Bengaluru: Working President of Karnataka Congress Saleem Ahmed on Monday filed a complaint against BJP's Rajarajeshwari Nagar candidate Muniratna for poll code violation. This is the third complaint filed by the party against Muniratna over violation of moral code of conduct and intimidation of oppenents. In his complaint, Ahmed has alleged that Muniratna has distributed 50,000 set-top boxes to families of voters in the constituency, at a cost of Rs 5 crore. The Congress added that the channels owned by Muniratna are airing programs with his photos and reach-out messages, which are being broadcast on set-top box. "On October 26, while campaigning in the constituency, Muniratna himself clearly stated that he has distributed set-top boxes and provided free televisions to people with the permission of the central government," read the Congress' complaint. Congress has sought action against the BJP candidate and urged the ECI to stop the telecast of channels owned by him, for attempting to influence voters. **ENS**

(L-R) BJP leaders Jagadish Shettar, Pralhad Joshi and the party's West Graduate constituency candidate S V Sankanur at a press conference in Hubballi on Monday

Cong creating stumbling blocks, say Joshi, Shettar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Hubballi

INDUSTRIES Minister Jagadish Shettar and Union Minister Pralhad Joshi tore into the Congress here on Monday. While Shettar said the Congress would slip into a coma after the Council polls and by-elections for two assembly segments, Pralhad Joshi appealed to the voters to show Congress its place for disrespecting democracy and not honouring the people's mandate.

In a joint press conference, Shettar and Joshi came down heavily on the Congress for "creating stumbling blocks to save its own skin from internal bickering both at the national and state levels." Joshi charged, "The Congress always projects the crisis in the party as a crisis of the nation, but it cannot fool the public all the time."

While both the leaders emphasised on increasing BJP's tally in the upper house for getting crucial bills cleared and good governance, Joshi, who holds the Parliamentary Affairs portfolio, said it was evident from the "ruckus created" by the Opposition parties during the passage of important farm bills in the Rajya Sabha that the Congress, which never thought of the well-being of the farming community, was against the progress of the nation.

Shettar also pointed out that the Congress and JDS in the Legislative Council had stalled the passage of bills pertaining to amendments to the APMC Act, land and labour reforms acts, which are much needed to bring the state out of the Covid-induced distress.

The "born to rule" mentality of the Gandhi family has ensured the demise of democracy in the Congress, Joshi charged.

Both leaders came to the rescue of the Central government over the delay in sanctioning relief amount for flood-ravaged Karnataka. They said that the state had been ravaged by floods three times in one season, which had never happened in the past, but the state and Central governments were doing their best in taking up relief and rehabilitation measures.

INCHING CLOSER TO D-DAY

RIGHT CASTE MIX KEY TO VICTORY IN SIRA

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Tumakuru

WITH the Sira bypolls just a week away, the three major political parties are looking at the right caste combination to fetch votes. This is because the combination of other communities is crucial for victory as the candidates of Big 3 — Congress's T B Jayachandra, JDS' Ammajamma B Satyanarayana and BJP's Dr C M Rajesh Gowda — are Kunchatiga Vokkaligas.

The grand old party has State party chief D K Shivakumar, a Vokkaliga, Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah, who claims to be the leader of AHINDA (Kannada acronym for minorities, Backward Classes and dalits), former Deputy CM Dr G Parameshwara and former minister H Anjaneya, both dalits, hitting the campaign trail. ST Nayaka leader and former MLA K N Rajanna not turning a rebel is an added advantage for the party.

Chamarajpet MLA Zameer Ahmed Khan and KPCC working president Saleem Ahmed had also campaigned for a couple of days to woo the Muslim population, especially in Sira town.

The BJP too with state vice president B Y Vijayendra, a Lingayat, K S Eshwarappa, a Kuruba, Hiriyuru MLA Poornima, a Golla leader, Deputy CM Dr Ashwathnarayana, a Vokkaliga, is campaigning vigorously. But more importantly, it has been making the best use of Deputy CM Govinda Karjol, representing SC left community which has sizeable votes in Sira. Karjol has been campaigning aggressively targeting the Congress.

Meanwhile, Raghu Kautilya, a backward classes leader, has been trying to rope in smaller communities such as Madiwalas, Upparas, Edigas, Balajigas among others.

Struggling with caste equation seems to be the JDS as a Kuruba and a Golla ZP member joined hands with Congress and BJP recently. Former Chikkanayakanahalli MLA C B Suresh Babu, a Kuruba leader, started the campaign rather late. The JD(S) has no star campaigners from different communities except former Pavagada MLA K M Thimmarayappa (SC left). JDS state president H K Kumaraswamy (SC right) has no traction.

Former PM H D Deve Gowda, his sons H D Kumaraswamy, H D Revanna, grandsons Nikhil Kumaraswamy and Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna were on the campaign trail. Tumakuru Rural MLA D C Gowrishankar, also a Vokkaliga, shouldering the responsibility of Kallambella Hobli and promising a good lead for the party, has brought in some cheer.

The JDS has got the unconditional support of the Karnataka unit of the Samajwadi Party in both RR Nagar and Sira.

A fire of Dr Rajesh Gowda, the BJP candidate from Sira constituency, greeting supporters while campaigning

Council polls: Campaigning ends, voting tomorrow

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

MONDAY marked the last day of outdoor campaigning for four Karnataka Legislative Council seats. Polling for two Teachers constituencies — Bengaluru and North-East — and two Graduates constituencies — South-East and West — will take place on Wednesday (October 28) between 8am and 5pm. Results of the Council elections will be declared on November 2.

A total of 15 candidates are in the fray for South-East Graduates constituency, including Chidanand M Gowda of the BJP, R Chowda Reddy Thoopalli of JDS and Ramesh Babu of the Congress. For West Graduates, 11 candidates are in the contest, including RM Kuberappa of the Congress, Kallur Shivashakar Channappa of JDS and Sankanur SV of BJP.

For North-East Teachers constituency, five candidates, including Timmayya Purle of JDS, Sharanappa Mattur of Congress and Shashil G Namoshi of the BJP are in the fray. Vatal Nagaraj too is one of the candidates. Six candidates are contesting for Bengaluru Teachers constituency, including Puttanna from the BJP, Praveen Peter from the Congress and AP Ranganath from the JDS.

Four seats in the Council fell vacant post completion of term of members — R Chowdareddy Thoopalli (South-East Graduates), Puttanna (Bengaluru Teachers), SV Sankanur (West Graduates) and Sharanappa Mattur (North-East Teachers).

Leader of Opposition and former chief minister Siddaramaiah speaks to villagers in flood-affected Jewargi taluk, Kalaburagi district, while assessing damage to crops in the region

Poll results not a referendum on government performance: Siddu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kalaburagi

RESULTS of elections to four Legislative Council seats and by-elections to two assembly seats will not be a referendum on the performance of the State government, Opposition leader in the assembly Siddaramaiah said here on Monday.

Answering a question at a press conference here, Siddaramaiah said that though the result of elections to four Council seats and two Assembly seats will not act as a referendum on the government's performance, it would certainly be an indicator of the mood of the people on the government's performance.

Siddaramaiah said that both the State and Union governments have failed to provide relief to the flood-hit people of the state, and also handle the pandemic.

CM B S Yediyurappa made an aerial survey of the flood-hit villages of Kalyana Karnataka region a few days ago, and held a meeting with officers of the region at Kalaburagi Airport. "Though he was at Kalaburagi airport, he did not visit flood-affected villages or meet any public representatives of flood-affected constituencies," Siddaramaiah said.

> **Though the CM was at Kalaburagi airport, he did not visit flood-affected villages or meet public representatives of flood-hit constituencies**
> — Siddaramaiah, Leader of Opposition

The government has not given a single paisa to flood-affected people this year or last year, he said.

'Keep deficit under 3 %'

Siddaramaiah slammed the BJP for burdening people with liabilities and challenged the party to an open debate about fiscal performance. "Let them decide the place and time, and I will come," he said. Siddaramaiah, who has presented a record 13 budgets advised, "Fiscal deficit should be under 3 % of GSDP, and I had maintained it within limits." He alleged that the BJP was increasing fiscal deficit from 3% to 5%, which is dangerous. He suggested they keep it it at 3.5 %.

He taunted Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman for rejecting proposed compensation of Rs 5,495 crore due to Karnataka, and said the state's share in devolution of funds was reduced from 4.71 to 3.64 after recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission.

Central flood aid on its way, claims DVS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

UNION Minister DV Sadananda Gowda on Monday reiterated that the Central government will provide financial assistance to the State to take up flood relief work.

Gowda told reporters that in view of the elections, the issue of Central aid has to be handled sensitively. "Initially, a small tranche will be released, and the full amount will be given after the Central team visits flood-hit areas and studies the extent of damage. Floods have caused major damage," Gowda said.

Heavy rain and release of water into the Bhima river from dams in Maharashtra caused devastating floods in North Karnataka. Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking a special financial package of Rs 10,000 crore for the flood-hit districts.

Meanwhile, Gowda, who campaigned in RR Nagar in Bengaluru, expressed confidence that the BJP will win the two assembly segments where polling is due on November 3, and four Legislative Council seats to which elections will be held on October 28.

> **Initially, a small tranche will be released, and the full amount will be given after the Central team visits flood-hit areas** — DV Sadananda Gowda, Union Minister

Hitting out at Congress state unit president DK Shivakumar for seeking votes on the basis of caste, Gowda said the election will put an end to caste politics. He also also accused Shivakumar and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah of politicising reforms started by the Centre.

The Union minister accused Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar of being responsible for farmer leader Maruti Manpade's death due to Covid-19. In response, State Congress president DK Shivakumar said "let them register a case".

Senior BJP leader and former Karnataka chief minister SM Krishna celebrates Dasara at the RSS office in Bengaluru on Sunday

Krishna all praise for RSS

Bengaluru: The RSS is more significant today than before, said former Karnataka Chief Minister and senior BJP leader SM Krishna. Krishna, who visited the RSS office in Bengaluru on Sunday to celebrate Dasara with its workers, said, "I have been in politics for many years and held many positions. I am among those who believe that the RSS is more significant now, than before," The 88-year-old former External Affairs Minister, who joined BJP in 2017, appreciated party workers and their "dedication to serving the nation". **ENS**

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NEET: SC's no to 50% OBC quota

Rights of over 10,000 students affected, says DMK member; parties disappointed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Chennai

THE Supreme Court on Monday rejected Tamil Nadu's interim prayer seeking implementation of 50 per cent reservation for Other Backward Classes in the State's medical colleges on seats contributed to the All-India Quota this academic year. Both the Dravidian parties approached the apex court after the Centre made it clear that it was not possible to implement the quota for OBCs this year.

A bench comprising Justices L Nageswara Rao, Hemant Gupta and Ajay Rastogi dismissed the pleas. In July, the Madras High Court directed the Centre to constitute a panel – with representatives from State and Central governments apart from the Medical Council of India – to decide on the issue of providing OBC reservations in the AIQ seats. Regional parties have expressed disappointment over the ruling, and urged the State to take immediate steps to secure reservations.

The DMK attacked the ruling governments at State and Centre for "jointly shattering" the dreams of several backward caste candidates. "The rights of over 10,000 students have been affected," a party member said, while calling upon the State government to exert political pressure on the Centre to implement the reservation. This comes at a time when the Tamil Nadu Governor has sought 3-4 weeks time to decide on the 7.5 per cent horizontal reservations Bill of the State government.

Previously, the OBCs were being provided reservation only in central universities. However, several activists and politicians had argued that since the States were allotting such a large margin of seats to the AIQ, the OBCs were losing out on seats that they could avail in non-central universities. It was estimated that the OBCs had lost out on over 10,000 seats in the last three years because the Centre had failed to implement reservation in the AIQ.

ARGUMENTS OVER RESERVATION

Previously, the OBCs were being provided reservation only in central universities. However, several activists and politicians had argued that since the States were allotting such a large margin of seats to the AIQ, the OBCs were losing out on seats that they could avail in non-central universities.

DEMON UP IN SMOKE

An effigy of Ravana being burnt to mark Dasara celebrations at ISKCON temple in Visakhapatnam on Monday | EXPRESS

Technical issues affecting stipend disbursal: Expert

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dr Naveen Chandra, district Endosulfan nodal officer, said there are technical issues in the disbursal of stipend. "Some victims may have provided wrong information or there might be mistakes in their identity cards. However, we will look into the issue," he said.

Another demand is to open a government-run permanent care centre for bedridden victims.

"Our main demand to provide 10kg of free ration promised by the government is yet to be fulfilled since 2011. At present, Kokkada, Koila and Ujire have day-care centres. We are told eight more centres have been approved. But they are yet to function. The young victims are not getting any benefits," said RTI Activist Sanjeev Kabaka.

Dr Chandra said, "In the absence of day-care centres, mobile medical units are providing medicines to the victims. Most of the medicines are given by the hospital itself. Only the medicine which is not available can be procured from outside, for which a particular Primary Health Centre (PHC) will reimburse it." "Opening day-care centres amid Covid-19 is risky. However, we are addressing the issue," he said.

Two arrested for kidnapping, killing friend

ENS @Bengaluru

TWO men were arrested by Rajagopalanagar police for allegedly kidnapping and murdering their friend. The victim is Mahesh Gowda (26), a resident of Laggere. The arrested Krishna and Ravi are small-time financiers. Police said Gowda's father Devegowda had lodged a kidnap case against the accused on October 23. He had stated that his son had last spoken to him on October 21 and had told that he would come home the next day. However, he did not return and his phone was switched off. He learnt from his son's friends that Gowda was kidnapped by Krishna and Ravi.

"The accused were traced and picked for questioning. During the interrogation, they both confessed that they had kidnapped Gowda on October 21 from Laggere and had hacked him to death at an isolated place in Hesaraghatta, where they had also buried the body. They stated that Gowda used to verbally abuse them and hence they decided to kill him," the police said.

Abhimanyu debuts, carries howdah

K SHIVAKUMAR @Mysuru

THE 411-year-old historic Mysuru Dasara celebrations and the Jamboo Savari procession, which usually attracts lakhs of people, was reduced to a simple ritual sans people and pomp this year amid the pandemic fear. The ten-day festival concluded on Monday with the Jamboo Savari procession. It ended in just 40 minutes. The Dasara procession is held on 'Vijayadashami', signifying the victory of good over evil.

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa performed the Nandi Dhwaja puja between 2.59 pm and 3.20 pm and prayed for the good health of the people and to protect them from Covid-19 and floods. He said though the government was forced to restrict the scale of the celebrations, they did not compromise on tradition. He added that the government would celebrate Dasara in a grand manner next year.

Yediyurappa, accompanied by Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, the heir of Mysuru royal family, District minister S T Somashekar and Mayor Tasneem, offered floral tributes to the presiding deity Chamundeshwari, which was placed in the golden howdah. Followed a 21-round gun salute..

A man places the Golden Howdah on Abhimanyu's back | UDAYSHANKAR S

The key attraction was the 'Jamboo Savari', the procession of the city's presiding deity Goddess Chamundeshwari, mounted on a golden howdah (seat) on the caparisoned elephant Abhimanyu. This was Abhimanyu's debut and he was accompanied by other caparisoned elephants.

As the elephants continued their march, there were performances of Chande Mela, stilt walking, Veeragase Kunita and Chilipili Gombe. The Health Department's tableau on Covid-19 was about creating awareness about the disease. And then came the Nadaswara team.

Unlike the five-km-long procession from the Mysuru Palace to Banni Mantapa, the Jamboo Savari was taken out to a distance of less than 300 m within the palace premises. What struck those watching it live on TV was the absence of cheering crowds and the general festive mood. Thanks to Covid-19, the Jamboo Savari was held in the presence of a limited audience, a handful of politicians and less than half a dozen cultural troupes. There were no long queues, people on trees or high-rise towers as the roads around Mysuru Palace were barricaded and entry was restricted.

The Covid-19 guidelines like social distance were strictly followed and only a maximum of 300 visitors were allowed.

Earlier, in the day Yaduveer Krishnadutta Chamaaraja Wadiyar took out the Vijaya Yatra to offer Banni puja at the Bhuvaneshwari temple within the palace premises.

Will meet deadline, says KEA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

AS part of the new system, CET students will have a mock round of option entry where they will know which college they will get into. Following two such rounds, the casual round will take place. All this will take place in between medical counselling rounds. Raju was confident that the KEA will complete the admission process well within the All-India Council for Technical Education deadline of November 30.

Classes for engineering colleges that were to start by November have been postponed for a month and will now begin by December 1. To continue with the admission process despite the pandemic, the KEA had taken the document verification process online and sought the help of other state government departments, like revenue and social welfare, to verify the documents.

But KEA faced a hiccup with its schedule for document verification clashing with the Joint Entrance Examination and postponed the process from September 2 to September 6.

CRIME PATROL

Man killls brother over property dispute

Bengaluru: A cab driver was killed by his brother in Sriramapura police station limits on Sunday. The deceased is Ravi (35) His younger brother Adishankar has been arrested. Police said Ravi had come home drunk and was fighting with his wife. His brothers, Karthik and Adishankar, intervened and it soon turned into a fight between the brothers over property. In the melee, Ravi picked up a knife from the kitchen and stabbed Karthik.

Woman, paramour held for husband's murder

Bengaluru: Jigani police arrested three people including a woman, who allegedly murdered her husband with the help of her paramour. The deceased is Madesh (35). His wife Prema (28), her paramour Shivamallu (26) and his friend Mallesh (26) have been arrested. Police said when Mahesh came to about Prema's affair with Shivamallu, the latter hatched a plan and roped in Shivamallu's friend. On October 17, the duo smashed his head with a boulder and fled.

16 motorists held for performing bike stunts

Bengaluru: Sixteen motorists were booked by the Basavanagudi police on Sunday for indulging in stunts, including popping wheelies and fitting their vehicles with modified silencers. All were taken into custody and their bikes were seized, while notices were also issued to their parents. Just four days ago, Electronics City police conducted a special drive against modified bike silencers and those indulging in stunts, and arrested 19 bikers.

Recovery rate at an all-time high

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Another reassuring fact is that the recovery rate is at an all-time high with 8,715 people recovering, taking the figure to 89.28 per cent. Health and Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar said, "With 8,715 recoveries and 3,130 cases, Karnataka witnessed more recoveries than positive cases for the 12th consecutive day. Let's continue our fight against Covid, by wearing masks, ensuring hand hygiene and maintaining physical distance."

October 22 saw the highest number of discharges at 13,550. With higher recoveries and lesser number of fresh cases, the number of active cases which crossed 1 lakh in September has now declined to 75,423. Yet another sign of comfort is the declining mortality rate from 2 per cent on July 26 to 1.35% on October 26. For the past 16 days, the state has been reporting less than 100 deaths per day and on Monday, fatalities were at 42. Bengaluru which was clocking 4,000 to 5,000 cases daily has seen a considerable dip. On Monday, it reported only 1,603 cases.

As per an analysis by Jeevan Raksha, test positivity rate (TPR) has reduced from 14.5% on September 19 to 12.6% on October 24 in Bengaluru. "Looks like Bengaluru Urban is getting its act together. Active cases have dropped from 65,000 to 51,000, TPR is down from 14% to 12.6%, average daily number of cases has dropped, number of deaths is relatively lower in October until 25 when compared with September. Hope the good performance is sustained at least for next 8-12 weeks," said Sanjeev Mysore, convener of Jeevan Raksha.

Of the 75,423 active cases in the state, 942 are in in ICU. However, with a syndromic approach adopted by the Critical Care Support Team that monitors these cases, Covid mortality is decreasing in the state.

App to assess vulnerability of user to Covid

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

HEALTHOPTIM, a mobile app that serves as a digital preventive healthcare platform, has introduced a new feature that measures the user's vulnerability to Covid. While anyone exposed to SARS-CoV-2 will likely be infected, whether this infection remains asymptomatic or develops into a severe disease depends on a variety of factors, such as age, gender, and a range of comorbid conditions.

"HealthOptim uses its artificial intelligence algorithm to match the profile of the user with the clinical data of over eight lakh individuals from around the world to estimate the user's risk for chronic lifestyle diseases, such as diabetes, heart disease, chronic kidney disease, hypertension, cancer and even stress. Individual disease risk levels are then computed to calculate the user's Covid Vulnerability Score, which is an estimate of the severity of the disease that will likely result if the user is exposed to the SARS-CoV-2 virus," a company statement said.

A health worker sorts vials carrying samples for Covid-19 testing | MEGHANA SASTRY

"In the initial days of the Covid pandemic, the question in everyone's minds was whether I will also get the infection. But today, when the virus is entrenched in our communities and infections continue to rise, we have to wonder how our body will respond if we are exposed to the virus. Will the infection be asymptomatic, mild, or severe," said Dr Rajat Anand, Director, and co-creator of the app.

According to Dr Anand, the Covid Vulnerability Score can serve as a critical guide in deciding the level of caution each of us must exercise.

Gopal Mishra, Head of Digital Marketing at HealthOptim, said, "The Covid Vulnerability Score is based on strong science. It was developed through a deep analysis of clinical data on contributions from different comorbidities to the severity of the Covid-19 disease."

The Covid Vulnerability Score can serve as a critical guide in deciding the level of caution each of us must exercise

Dr Rajat Anand, co-creator of HealthOptim

LIMITED EFFORT

'Falling growth rate in tests not enough to check virus spread'

RANJANI MADHAVAN
@Bengaluru

EVEN while the number of tests is increasing, the speed or rate at which this is happening is less and is not sufficient to block the spread of the virus, a weekly analysis of six mega cities, including Bengaluru, has found.

The analysis was done by Jeevan Raksha, an initiative by Proxima Consulting and Public Health Foundation of India. For instance, in Bengaluru, the percentage of increase in the number of tests was 234 in June, which decreased to 187 in July, 169 in August, 94% in September and 87% in October.

"The testing is inadequate in Bengaluru with respect to the sheer size of the population. Virus is spreading wide and fast across the city. In all, 2,07,000 tests per million population conducted by Bengaluru Urban is inadequate as well as not fast enough to stop the spread of the virus," said Mysore Sanjeev, convenor, Jeevan Raksha.

The Population positivity rate shows that the coronavirus is spreading fast in the city. As of September 19, 1.6% of the population in Bengaluru was infected, which increased to 2.6% as of October 24, highest amongst all the 6 mega cities in India. As a whole, in Bengaluru, Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Kolkata, 1.5% of the total 8.45 crore population have already tested positive.

On the positive side, the active cases in Bengaluru have dropped from 65,000 to 51,000, test positivity rate is down from 14% to 12.6%, average daily number of cases has dropped and number of deaths is relatively lower in October until Friday.

The weekly moving growth rate of testing has also reduced in Bengaluru, Chennai, Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Delhi, based on a comparison between (September 12-19) and (October 17 to 24).

For example, in Bengaluru, the 7-day moving growth rate for testing between September 12 (11,90,000 tests) and September 19 (13,70,000 tests) was 15%. However the 7-day moving growth rate between October 17 (23,80,000 tests) and October 24 (25,60,000) was only 8%.

In the pandemic, the upward and downward movement of 7-Day Moving Growth Rate (MGR) of testing indicates the speed at which the administration is moving towards blocking the virus from spreading in the region. "If the testing MGR moves upwards, it means that the administration is moving faster and identifying more number of infected people at an early stage and helping them recover fast. But if it moves downwards, then the pace of testing is not matching with the velocity of the virus spread," Sanjeev said.

"One of the inferences we can make, with respect to declining MGR, is that the system capacity has reached its optimum level and is slowing down due to lack of resources. The government must reinforce BBMP with additional resources for containment management," he added.

Oxford vaccine in contention

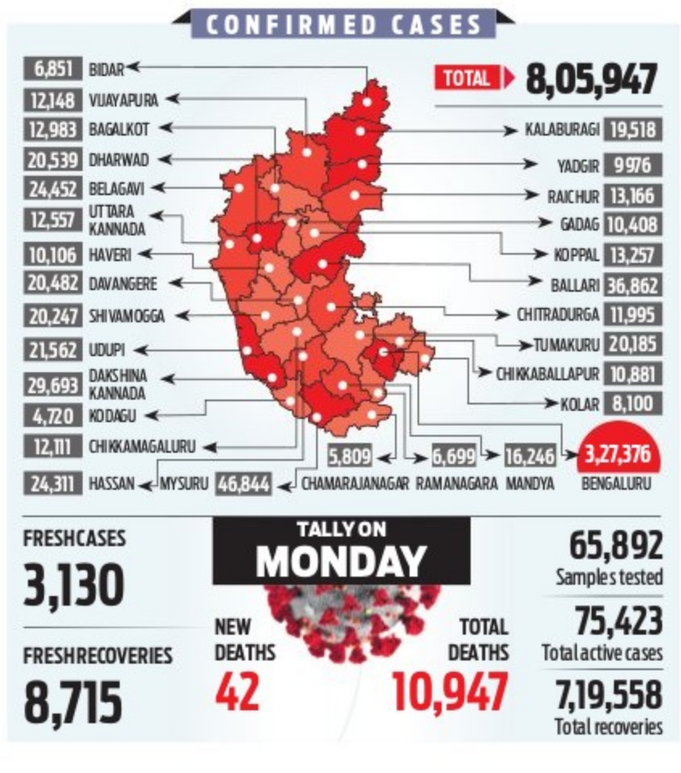
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE Drug Controller General of India has cleared Sputnik V for testing by Dr Reddy's Laboratories. An interim analysis of Covishield has shown "encouraging immune response in the young and elderly people with low adverse reactions in the elderly."

The Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine is being tested in the country and manufactured by the Pune-based Serum Institute of India, which is also the world's largest manufacturer of vaccines. On the vaccination strategy, well-known immunologist from Bengaluru Dr Chandrashekhar said it would depend on the nature and longevity of the immune response generated by the vaccine. "A good immune response is a surrogate marker of the efficiency of the vaccine. One will have to wait and watch whether the vaccine against Covid would give us long-time protection or it should be repeated once a year. It is difficult to say how long the response would last since vaccine trials began only four to six months ago," he said.

Meanwhile, in a boost to FHWs in private hospitals, the government has extended the insurance scheme for those working on Covid duty under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan package, subject to conditions.

The insurance scheme provides for a "comprehensive personal accident cover of Rs 50 lakh for all public HCWs, who may have to be in direct contact and care of Covid-19 patients and at the risk of being impacted by this," stated the circular sent by Commissioner, Health & Family Welfare Services, Karnataka, Pankaj Pandey on October 22.



EDITORIAL

Pakistan never fulfilled the first ... condition for a plebiscite to materialise. It continues to persist with mendacious demands for a plebiscite in international fora hoping audiences will be unfamiliar with the empirical facts of the case

Christine Fair

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

EXTRA U.S. INITIATIVE IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD AFTER 2+2 TALKS

The 2+2 dialogue between India and the US—in the midst of a pandemic, and a hard-fought presidential election campaign—is not an event without significance. That a physical meeting is taking place when virtual interactions are the norm underlines the importance the US administration attaches to carrying on this high-level dialogue, of which this represents the third edition. It also clarifies that the mutual objective of sustaining robust bilateral relations is not particularly dependent on election outcomes: It is bipartisan. Before Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defense Mark Esper leave New Delhi, the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement may be inked.

Termed a foundational pact, BECA would ensure "geospatial information flow" between the two armies and defence establishments. The threat from China, no doubt, is the driving force here—that is what impels the two nations to continue to firm up military strategic cooperation in the broad Asia Pacific region—securing the Indo-Pacific maritime theatre as a free and open zone is both the ostensible and the ultimate imperative. Whether it is the new sense of urgency in the Quad or the resumption of the Malabar naval exercise after 13 years, Beijing's aggressive behaviour in the neighbourhood and India's own borders is a point of calling.

The Pompeo-Esper duo are in fact scheduled to travel to Sri Lanka and the Maldives, after holding their pow-wow with Rajnath Singh and S Jaishankar, the Indian defence and external affairs ministers. A clear sign of extra initiative, that. Washington is clearly not leaving it to New Delhi to work on its traditional arc of influence, to secure it against Beijing. It's taking on the job itself. Whether India stays coy and does not admit to the Indo-US 'alliance', no one in Beijing will be fooled. And down the chain of reactions, that leaves India with even fewer options.

CSK OUT, BUT DON'T FORGET MSD LEGACY

In the constantly changing world of T20 cricket, there is no constant. Stars and teams are on a continuous roller-coaster ride. Stories and heroes change so fast that there is no room for something called legacy, which takes time to build. Chennai Super Kings (CSK) is an exception. Its ouster from the Indian Premier League (IPL) before the last-four stage is significant; it was the only team with a 100% record of going that far. In all 10 years that it had been part of the IPL (suspended in 2016 and 2017), the team in yellow went past the league stage. In a tournament of frequent ups and downs, this record will take some beating.

Reliance on older players, important team members dropping out at the last moment, no young talent to fall back on and captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni's gradually decreasing powers as a cricketer—broadly, CSK's fall is a combination of these factors. Of these, the skipper's fall from what he used to be is the most striking to the naked eye. He was the talisman of the Chennai IPL team, performing as a player and captain year after year. Not always at the forefront, he was most visible when it came to leading by example. But at 39, the former Indian captain is a spent force. For a team built on a foundation like him, Dhoni's natural deterioration as a player was a big blow. And because it put all its eggs in one basket, the team was caught without a Plan B.

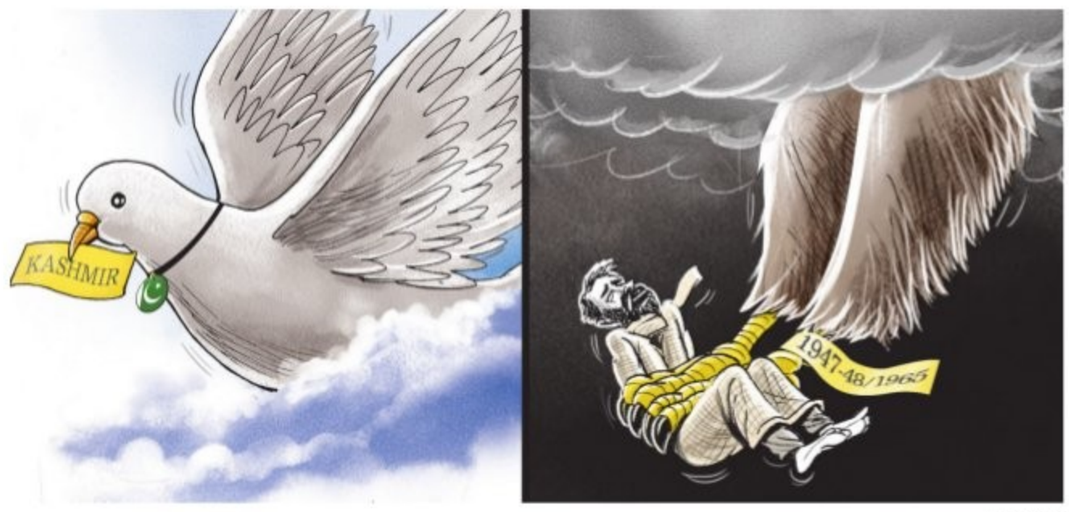
This year's debacle will prompt new thoughts and lead to the infusion of new ideas, personnel and strategies. It's possible that a different-looking CSK will play in the IPL next year. But the glorious example the team has set under Dhoni will remain. What it achieved has no parallel in the brief history of T20 cricket. Mumbai Indians may have won the IPL more times, but CSK's run of consistency is a benchmark others can only dream of matching at this point in time. This will be the legacy of CSK under Dhoni, in a world of T20s where it is difficult to leave behind legacies.

To counter Pakistani spin, historic instances such as the resistance to its raiders by the people of Kashmir in 1947-48 and 1965 need to be retold

NARRATIVE CONTROL ON J&K: A GOOD BEGINNING WITH 'BLACK DAY'

LT GEN SYED ATA HASNAIN (RETD)

Former Commander, Srinagar-based 15 Corps. Now Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir



AMIT BANDRE

Even as Ladakh remains strongly etched in the public mind as an area of major concern in the security domain, there is much interest in the state of things in J&K. The enormous complexity of the problem is, however, not fully perceived by most, although the situation being currently 'advantage India' is largely appreciated. The need for full narrative control to enable the correct perception to prevail and allow the rightful progression of the situation flowing from the historic decisions of 5 August 2019 is a virtual imperative. Narrative control is something that India has taken for granted in the past, laying little focus on it due to a self-perceived belief that we have moral dominance. That is a good abiding belief but in the world of realpolitik, what is also important is to cultivate that belief in the international community: the people, media and leadership. Making our narrative their narrative remains the key.

An event organised at Srinagar's Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre by India's Ministry of Culture on 22-23 October 2020 to commemorate 22 October 1947 as Black Day for the first time is an appropriate beginning in this direction. It's surprising how little is known to people about the crucial period 22-27 October 1947, a time that defined the destiny of J&K. The progression of events from then to various important historical milestones in Indo-Pakistan relations has also never been highlighted enough for our own people to take note and speak about. It is thus the Pakistani narrative that has prevailed internationally and within J&K, of the Hindu ruler being influenced under coercion to opt for India even when the majority population was Muslim. That narrative also speaks of India's unilateral military action to annex J&K, non-adherence to the UN resolutions and continued abrogation of the rights of the people of J&K. I found this perception prevailing among the people and media in many countries I visited after 5 August 2019 even as the governments there backed India's decisions.

22 October 1947 is symbolic of the larger intent of Pakistan, which was prevalent well before the final decision to partition India. Pakistan had perceived the problem likely to arise relative to J&K; the strategic location, its water resources and Muslim population being the issues. It was fully aware that once Partition had been executed, it would take time for the Pakistan Army to come into being through division of the British Indian Army, thus offsetting the possibility of effective military intervention. Pakistan's Maj Gen Akbar Khan, in his book 'Raiders in Kashmir', explains in sufficient detail the actions taken clandestinely to equip an irregular force to invade J&K and prevent India from responding effectively. It is unclear as to how the decision to harness the frontier tribesmen or 'kabbalis' was taken—perhaps through some ex-servicemen tribal leaders. Pakistan also had no intention of abiding by the Stand Still Agreement with the Maharaja and continued seeking ways to coerce him, including placing a blockade on access to Srinagar. Akbar Khan meanwhile directed raids all across the borders of J&K to create communal tension. The date for commencement of the main offensive, termed Operation Gulmarg, was 22 October 1947 in order to have sufficient time to stabilise before the winter, which would anyway act as a deterrent for any delayed Indian counter action. The tribesmen of the North West Frontier were selected to undertake the bulk of initial operations and organised into 'lashkars' of 500-1,000 men; the intent here was deniability of any official Pakistan hand.

Two major characteristics of later-day Pakistani doctrine appeared to have its origins here. Effective and credible denial backed by professional information handling became a way of life and an indelible part of Pakistan's strategic doctrine. The second was the employment of irregulars to execute the bulk of operations with the Pakistan Army in support. Despite the severe mauling that the 'kabbalis' received at the hands of the Indian Army in 1947 and the terrible reputation they obtained due to the pillage, plunder and rape they indulged in Baramulla and other places, the Pakistan Army continued to believe strongly in the power of the irregulars to deliver. In 1965, it attempted the same strategy with Operation Gibraltar in the hope of engineering an uprising of the Kashmiris. The hope vanished soon when the Kashmiris, like in 1947-48, came to the support of the Indian forces. Since 1989, Pakistan has relied on similar strategies applied in a variety of ways and used information spin to seek advantage. The lessons that emerged from the 1947-48 experience also taught Pakistan the necessity to have a dedicated body to handle information spin; the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) agency was thus created in 1949, predating the Inter Services Intelligence (ISI).

The valour of Kashmiri nationalists such as Maqbool Sherwani, who were executed by the marauding tribals, needs to be better documented. That the tribals carried away many women after killing their families has hardly been known to people in India, let alone the world

It is through information spin that Pakistan has attempted to convince the world of the J&K people's resentment against India. Therefore, historic instances such as the resistance to the Pakistani raiders by the people of Kashmir in 1947-48 and 1965 need to be retold the Indian way. The stories of individual valour of great Kashmiri nationalists such as Maqbool Sherwani and Master Abdul Aziz of Baramulla, who were summarily executed by the marauding tribals, also need to be better documented. That the tribals carried away innumerable women after killing their families has hardly been known to people in India, let alone the world. Pakistan's use of foreign jihadi mercenaries in the nineties, their misdemeanours against the people, especially women, also needs to be highlighted in various counter narratives. There is little recorded information on these sordid events for today's world to take cognisance of.

Lastly, the UN resolutions on which Pakistan places great emphasis in its pleadings to the world need to be brought into the right perspective. India's information blitzkrieg, hopefully in the making, must include the basics that it was Pakistan that failed to adhere to the requirement of withdrawal of its forces in order for India to initiate the process of plebiscite under UN aegis. The Instrument of Accession being the legal document in favour of India gave it that right. It must thereafter focus on the Shimla Agreement of 1972 to which Pakistan is a signatory and which effectively overrides the UN Resolution and makes plebiscite irrelevant. Pakistan continues to ignore the Shimla Agreement and focuses on rekindling the irrelevant UN Resolutions that have been overtaken by history. In that it finds succour in painting India black, a stance that needs effective countering over time by our own narrative control. By calling 22 October 1947 Black Day, a good beginning has been made but clearly much more needs to be done.

(atahasnain@gmail.com)

K R NARAYANAN AND HIS RELEVANCE FOR OUR TIMES

D RAJA

General Secretary, CPI

On the occasion of the birth centenary of the former President of India, the late K R Narayanan, the country gratefully remembers him. K R Narayanan was born on 27 October 1920 in a Dalit family in Uzhavoor, now in the Kottayam district of Kerala. Through his education, he emerged as a great scholar like Dr B R Ambedkar. He worked as a journalist in English newspapers in India from 1943 to 1945. He was also writing for some foreign journals. Later, he joined the Indian Foreign Service and served as an Indian Ambassador in several countries, including China.

After retiring from the IFS in 1978, he was appointed as Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in January 1979. He remained in that position till October 1980. Later on, he was elected to Parliament and became a minister in the Union government. He was elected as the Vice President in 1992 and finally the President in 1997.

Today the nation recalls the exemplary role played by him in preserving, protecting and defending the Constitution, which is currently getting severely compromised by the forces representing Hindutva and wedded to hate culture and polarised politics. No Indian President faced as many challenges in defending the Constitution as he did and his role in upholding it constitutes an enduring legacy worthy of replication.

When the Vajpayee government floated the proposal to review the Constitution, he raised the red flag by asking sharply, "Let us examine if the Constitution has failed us, or we have failed the Constitution." That interrogation, combined with his moral stature, weighed so heavily in favour of the Constitution that the Vajpayee government, instead of reviewing the Constitution, set up a commission to review its working. His defence of the Constitution inspires people to look up to his legacy in these troubled times marked by devaluation, derailment of institutions of governance, and assault on the Constitution and constitutional morality.

In fact, when the farm Bills in the Rajya Sabha were passed in September 2020, many public figures said that if Narayanan had been the current President, he would have returned the Bills for reconsideration by citing that the Constitution and rules of the House were transgressed in announcing the passage of those legislations.

A man actuated by empathy, he set a shining example by meeting the people from Gujarat who lost their near and dear ones in the riots that shook the state in 2002 and caused outrage across the nation. Shocked and distressed victims were denied access to PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, but when they met President Narayanan, they felt relieved that at least there was someone at the highest level of the Republic who could hear them and express solidarity.

Narayanan adopted a confluential approach to understand history and historical personalities, and interpret the past and the ongoing dynamics of our society. That confluential approach was demonstrated in his understanding of the enduring significance of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Ambedkar in shaping India's destiny, ushering in the process of liberation and empowerment, and generating impulses for progressive social change. He poetically summed up their extraordinary contributions by saying, "If Mahatma Gandhi introduced a moral purpose, shall one say a moral soul, as well as a mass dimension to the Indian nationalist movement, and if Jawaharlal Nehru introduced a social and economic dimension and a world vision, Dr Ambedkar brought to it a profound social content and a passionate protest against social inequalities and oppression." In fact, his worldview was greatly shaped by such a confluential understanding of three outstanding leaders of modern India and he got actuated by their common outlook and common touch for the suffering humanity.

K R Narayanan upheld the Constitution and affirmed the nation's pluralistic and secular credentials. The former President's legacy shows us how to address the challenges faced by India in the 21st century

Today, those who are in power keep talking about "reform, perform and transform". But K R Narayanan, with his foresight, cautioned, "The economic reforms through liberalisation and globalisation should not ignore this weaker majority—the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribes, the women who toil day and night and make life worth living in our homes."

Narayanan was prophetic and observed, with great pains, that the issues of the caste system and Scheduled Castes and Tribes was an explosive one: "Unless this colossal social and economic problem is tackled within a conceivable period, there might well be convulsions which will disturb the unity and stability of India."

It is very tragic that secularism is being mocked by the people holding high constitutional offices. In doing so, they are mocking the Constitution, the ethos of the freedom struggle and the ideal of *sarva dharma samabhava*, the coexistence of all faiths. It is instructive to note that K R Narayanan very insightfully observed: "In the Indian context of a multi-religious society, secularism is the product of history as well as a practical necessity for harmonious living and for the survival of the state." Therefore, he stressed on the positive task of social modernisation and cultivation of the spirit of secularism at the comprehensive levels of religion, community, politics, culture and patterns of daily life.

Today, when the processes of social modernisation are being stalled in the name of majoritarianism, Hindutva and other narrow identities, we are confronting an existential crisis. The legacy of President Narayanan, rooted in an approach upholding the Constitution and constitutional morality, and affirming pluralistic and secular credentials, constitute the remedy to address the challenges confronted by our Republic in the 21st century.

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Don't make such remarks

At a time when Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has made it clear that India wants to end border tensions with China, there was no need for the UP BJP chief to claim that PM Modi had decided when to wage war with our neighbours. Party leaders must desist from making such remarks.

N Nagarajan, Secunderabad

Shameful statement

Former J&K CM Mehbooba Mufti should be ashamed to have berated the Indian flag by saying it will not be hoisted till Kashmir's statehood is reinstated. These politicians looted their citizens till the special status of J&K was revoked.

S Lakshmi, email

Hurt Indian sentiments

US President Donald Trump has hurt the sentiments of crores of Indians with his callous jibe describing India's air as filthy. Even if he was trying to justify walking out of the Paris Climate accord, he should have avoided making such impulsive comments against a friendly nation.

Sudhakar Cherukunnu, Kannur

Need awareness campaign

The social implications of the Centre's plan to raise the legal marriage age of girls from 18 to 21 should be deliberated upon. Though it is logical, what is needed is a massive awareness campaign about the ill-effects of early marriage.

Baburajan A, Chaliyam

No harm in giving credit

This is with reference to *Rahul Gandhi and the Congress in Kerala* (Oct 26). Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's endorsement of the Kerala government's measures to fight the pandemic is giving the devil its due. Kerala handled the crisis better than most other states in India. There is no harm in giving it its due credit.

C M Umanath, Kozhikode

Disconnect in GoP

The national Congress wants to join hands with other opposition parties to fight the ruling BJP, while the Kerala unit is fighting another ruling party. It can't be blamed for berating the LDF.

T V Jayaprakash, Palakkad

Disastrous for Kerala Cong

Rahul's cameo performance on Kerala's affairs without considering the interests of the state unit will be disastrous for the party. This reveals how the central leadership takes the state units for granted.

Bijumon P N, Idukki

Women's Bill still pending

This is with reference to *Women reduced to just another vote bank* (Oct 25). No political party walks the talk when it comes to promises made to women. The women's reservation Bill is still pending. Atrocities against them are aplenty, but nothing is done about them.

K Nehru Patnaik, Visakhapatnam

A game of uncertainties

It was a day of upsets in the IPL on Sunday. Though the Chennai Super Kings prevailed over the Royal Challengers Bangalore, it became the first team to be eliminated from the playoffs despite winning the game. Cricket indeed is a game of glorious uncertainties.

N J Ravi Chander, Bengaluru

Heartbroken CSK fans

CSK fans all over the world would be heartbroken to see it be the first to be eliminated from the playoffs, a first for the team that usually exits only in the semi-finals or finals. One hopes CSK emerges as it used to be in the next IPL.

V S Ganeshan, Bengaluru

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Ashok Gehlot @ashokgehlot51
I request GoI to announce free vaccination for all citizens because with FM making poll promise of free vaccination for Bihar, it has created a confusion.

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi
It's sad that Punjab is feeling such anger towards PM. This is a very dangerous precedent and is bad for our country. PM should reach out, listen and give a healing touch quickly.

Abhishek Singhvi @DrAMSinghvi
And we are back to pre- lockdown levels of pollution. Makes us so consistent in our endeavours.

US Secretary of Defense Mark Esper with Rajnath Singh; (R) Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Subrahmanyam Jaishankar at the Hyderabad House | SHEKHAR YADAV & AP

Landmark India-US pact likely today

Pompeo, Esper in Delhi for 2+2 Dialogue; agreement on geo-spatial cooperation expected

PUSHKAR BANAKAR @New Delhi

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Secretary of Defence Mark Esper arrived in India on Monday for the third 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue where the two countries are likely to finalise and sign the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) on geo-spatial cooperation.

The ministerial dialogue will be held on Tuesday prior to which the two US officials will pay their tributes at the National War Memorial. The talks are expected to focus on regional and global security, defence information sharing, strengthening and working in the Indo-Pacific, and cooperation on public health to tackle the coronavirus pandemic.

"Grateful for the opportunity to connect with our partners to promote a shared vision for a free and open #IndoPacific composed of independent, strong, and prosperous nations," Pompeo tweeted on Sunday before leaving the US for India. Pompeo and Esper will travel to Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Indonesia on their way back home.

The US State Department, in a statement, said that holding the third 2+2 ministerial dialogue in a little more than two years demonstrates high-level commitment to our shared diplomatic and security objectives. "The US and India have a commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific, and the growth in the partnership "reflects a deepening strategic convergence on a range of issues," the statement added.

> **BECA, if signed, would be a natural progression of our defence relations and would enable real interoperability and information sharing in a challenging global environment** —Harinder Sekhon, Indo-US expert

Officials and experts said that India and US have been growing closer in the military and strategic domain since 9/11. "The BECA, if signed, would be a natural progression of our defence relations and would enable real interoperability and information sharing in a challenging global environment. India stands to gain more as we would receive geo spatial images, maps, etc of the highest quality, a capability that we do not possess. In a globalised world with multi pronged challenges that India faces, the US is best equipped (and willing) to fulfill our security needs. But India needs to tread carefully," an Indo-US expert Harinder Sekhon said.

She also dismissed fears of over-dependence on the US as unfounded. "We are a vibrant democracy and in foreign policy too have so far maintained a balance between our two major defence partners, as was seen in the signing of the S400 agreement with Russia despite the threat of US sanctions. The US needs us as do we need them. So we have to be smart but not negative, nor succumb completely to US tactics and pressures," she said.

INDIA-US MEET

EAM, Pompeo review progress in bilateral ties

CONTINUED FROM P1

MEANWHILE, Jaishankar called on Pompeo where the two leaders followed up on their Tokyo discussions which were focussed on key bilateral, regional and global issues. "They reviewed progress in bilateral ties over last four years and expressed satisfaction that they have grown in virtually every domain including trade, energy, defence and education. They noted that the practice of consultations on foreign policy issues has also expanded, including regional and multilateral; working more closely in multilateral and plurilateral formats," a source said.

The EAM stressed on the uniqueness of our technology and talent flow connects and underlined that a knowledge economy with greater data sensitivity makes an even stronger case for collaboration while noting an innovation partnership is central to our future. "Education is a special bond between us and both sides should work to expand it further," the source quoted Jaishankar as saying.

Pompeo shared with Jaishankar the US thinking on Afghanistan while the EAM highlighted India's stakes and its continuing concern that decisions should be made by Afghans themselves. Jaishankar also made it clear that cross-border terrorism was unacceptable.

Experts: Political will to curb pollution missing

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE Centre's proposal for a new law to curb air pollution has raised questions if the existing ones are ineffective, with experts saying it is not law but the political will to implement them that is missing to check pollution levels.

Air Quality Researcher Polash Mukerjee said that lack of law is not a problem in India, whether it is about paddy stubble burning, providing subsidies or penalising the polluter.

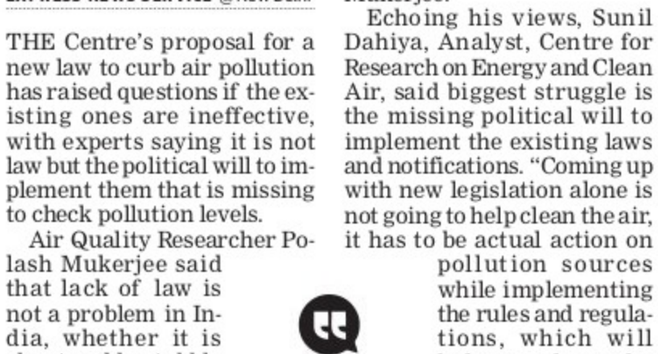
> **The problem lies in the fact that political will is missing when it comes to implementation (of laws and rules)** Polash Mukerjee, Air Quality Researcher

"The problem lies in the fact that political will is missing when it comes to implementation. Having said that, it will be welcome if there is a specific provision to deal with crop residue burning at a national level, and not leave it contained as a problem in Punjab and Haryana only. Satellite images from central and southern India show the extent of crop residue burning in these parts as well, which have an impact on local climate resilience," said Mukerjee.

Echoing his views, Sunil Dahiya, Analyst, Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air, said biggest struggle is the missing political will to implement the existing laws and notifications. "Coming up with new legislation alone is not going to help clean the air, it has to be actual action on pollution sources while implementing the rules and regulations, which will help us clean the air," he added.

A report released by Beijing based policy think tank, Bluetech Clean Air Alliance, in June 2019, said China faced similar problem and the government there started to show a strong political commitment in tackling the issue at the highest levels, which was considered to be a key factor of success.

"...Political commitments from the state governments are also required to ensure political commitments are transformed into solid actions," said the report.



PTI

Covid death rate in India now lowest since March

NEW DELHI: In a major relief, India on Monday registered the lowest single-day cases and fatalities in the last three months. According to the health ministry data, 45,149 new cases were detected in the last 24 hours, which took the tally to 79,09,959 while 480 fresh deaths were recorded in the same period, taking the cumulative death toll to 1,19, 014.

The case fatality rate has now gone under 1.5% and become the lowest since March 22. The ministry said many states have conducted population surveys to map and identify the vulnerable population like the elderly, pregnant women and those with comorbidities. There are now 14 states/Union Territories with death rates lower than 1%. *ENS*

Docs, nurses posts lie vacant in states even as Covid rages

RAJESH ASNANI, VINEET UPADHYAY, RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR & NAMITA BAJPAI
@ Jaipur/Dehradun/Patna/Lucknow

AT a time when the Covid-19 pandemic is still raging in the country, most states have failed to fill the vacancies of medical professionals, including doctors, nurses and other health employees.

As per the figures accessed by this newspaper, the most populous state Uttar Pradesh, which has the fifth highest number of cases in the country, has a 33% shortage of doctors while 45% posts for nurses are lying unfilled.

In Bihar and Jharkhand, the shortage of doctors is worse, with more than 59% and 55% posts of doctors lying vacant respectively. Medical staff in West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh are similarly reeling under pressure due to a significant percentage of such posts lying vacant.

India's Covid-19 tally climbed to 79.09 lakh on Monday, with 45,148 fresh cases added in the past 24 hours.

In UP, the total sanctioned posts for doctors in the government sector is 18,772. But at present, only 12,000-odd are working with 6,000 posts lying vacant across the state. UP Doctors Association president Sachin Vaishya said the recruitment of doctors is set to commence soon.

Similarly, there are around 10,000 nursing posts sanctioned for government medical colleges and hospitals across the state of which around 4,500, around 45%, nursing posts are lying vacant.

Bihar has a shortage of 8,068 doctors against a sanctioned strength of 13,500 and 13,800 nurses against 20,000.

As per information made public by the union ministry of health and family welfare in March this year, based on figures till a year back, many states had severe paucity of crucial healthcare workers such as auxiliary nursing midwifery and paramedics. States such as Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Rajasthan also had many posts of doctors lying vacant, as per the bulletin.

The statistics showed that there was a shortfall of as many as 58,473 ANM/health workers in the country's subcentres as on March 31, 2019. Rajasthan had the highest shortfall of 13,848 workers followed by Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka which had a shortfall of 10,749 and 8038 health workers respectively.

In primary health care centres, according to the ministry, there was a shortfall of 12,823 health workers, 1,933 doctors, 8,979 pharmacists, 15,875 lab technicians and 7,569 nursing staff. In community health care centres there was a shortfall of 17,876 specialists, 1,099 GDMO, 3,266 radiographers, 327 pharmacists, 627 lab technicians, 3,372 nursing staff.

Officials in the ministry told this newspaper that states have, from time to time, been told to fill up the vacancies urgently.

"The lack of doctors in rural hospitals is a long-standing problem and things are bound to get worse if even other healthcare workers are not in full force during the pandemic," said a senior official.

What he said reflects on the ground. Sources said there are 4,133 ANM vacancies against sanctioned posts of 9,130 in Bihar and there is also a shortage of 2,000-odd medical members against 4,000 sanctioned posts.

Vacancy of doctors in Uttarakhand is 39%. Out of a total 2,735 sanctioned positions, 1,072 are still lying vacant with only 1,663 doctors on active duty.

Health department director general Amita Upreti said: "The recruitment process of the doctors and other medical staff is on fast track already to fill the gap. In the last six months, more than 400 doctors were recruited."

Rajasthan, which has done fairly well in handling the pandemic, is also struggling to fill vacancies of medical posts. About 19% of the total 14,087 posts of doctors is lying vacant. There is a shortage of 2,692 nurses.

The situation in Punjab appears to be slightly better but not very different from the other states. According to sources, just before the Covid-19 pandemic affected India in March, around 6,000 posts of healthcare workers were lying vacant.

Maharashtra, which has the biggest load of Covid-19 cases among all states, has about 31,000 vacancies in the health department. These include posts at the level of additional director, joint director, assistant district health officer, surgeon and nurse.

West Bengal, another state badly hit by the virus, is short of 7,500 doctors. Chhattisgarh has 880 vacancies for doctors. It also faces an acute shortage of specialists, with 1,461 of the 1,593 posts lying vacant.

> **The lack of doctors in rural hospitals is a long-standing problem and things are bound to get worse if even other healthcare workers are not in full force during the pandemic** — Official

Experts said it is not the shortage of doctors and other health workers that is a challenege, but their unequal distribution. "I don't think there is a shortage of doctors in India but the bigger problem is urban bias, which has been fuelled by blatant privatisation of medical education," said former Indian Medical Association president Dr Ravi Wankhedkar.

He also pointed out that healthcare should be pyramid shaped-more paramedics at base and doctors at top. "In India, however, it is dumbbell shaped with more class 4 and more doctors and far lesser nurses and technicians."

(With Mukesh Ranjan, Harpreet Bajwa, Ejaz Kaiser, Sudhir Suryawanshi & Pranab Mondal)

Don't pontificate on democracy! Nadda hits out at Sonia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

JOINING the debate with Congress president Sonia Gandhi on 'the state of democracy', BJP chief J P Nadda alleged that the opposition party has shown contempt for dissenting voices for decades.

Reacting to an article by Gandhi in which she hit out at the ruling dispensation for alleged "stifling of dissenting voices", Nadda said the Congress possesses "despondency and shamelessness which is dangerous".

In a series of tweets, he sought to remind the Congress chief of the past. "On freedom of speech, the Congress can never pontificate to others. They have contempt for dissenting voices for decades. We saw glimpses of it during the Emergency. Later on, the Rajiv Gandhi government made a brazen attempt to weaken press freedom. A free press rattles the Congress," tweeted Nadda.

"Empty rhetoric of decency and democracy by the mother (Sonia Gandhi) is complemented by live demonstrations of politics of hate, anger, lies and aggression by the son (Rahul Gandhi). Double standards galore," exclaimed Nadda in another tweet.

The BJP chief also came down heavily against Rahul Gandhi for burning of the effigy of the PM Narendra Modi in Punjab. "The Rahul Gandhi-directed drama of burning PM's effigy in Punjab is shameful but not unexpected. After all, the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty has never respected the office of the PM," he said.

"If anyone wants to see a laboratory of usage of brute state power, troubling opponents, curbing freedom of speech in trademark Congress style, see the working of the Congress blessed Maharashtra government. Except governing, they are doing everything else," claimed Nadda.

Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar also sought to contrast the track records of the NDA and its predecessor UPA dispensation, saying while the Shaheen Bagh protests (against the CAA) went on peacefully, the UPA government led by Manmohan Singh government had ordered lathicharge at the protesters, led by yoga guru Baba Ramdev, at the Ramlila Ground in Delhi.

> **One dynasty's deep personal hatred against...PM is historic. More Congress lies and hate increases, the more people will support PM Modi** —J P Nadda, BJP national president

'Way out has to be found to keep cows in shelters or with owners'

CONTINUED FROM P1

THE judge made the remarks after learning that the accused had been in jail for over a month even when there was no allegation against him in the first information report. Rahmuddin's lawyer also claimed that his client was not arrested from the spot of the alleged crime.

The court granted bail to Rahmuddin on certain conditions such as not tampering with evidence. In its order on October 19, the court also made observations on the menace of abandoned cattle and stray cows in Uttar Pradesh.

"Whenever cows are shown to be recovered, no proper recovery memo is prepared and one does not know where cows go after recovery. Goshalas do not accept the non-milching cows or old cows and they are left to wander on the roads. Similarly, owners of the cows after milking, leave the cows to roam on roads, to drink drainage/sewer water and eat garbage, polythene, etc," the judge said.

"Whether cows are on roads or fields, their abandonment affects society. Some way out has to be found out to keep them either in cow shelters or with the owners," he said.

Gujarat High Court begins live-streaming proceedings for transparency, accountability

KANU SARDA @New Delhi

THE Gujarat High Court on Monday became the first high court in the country to live-stream its court proceedings on Youtube in order to enhance access to courts, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The first day of live streaming saw 1,500 viewers watching the proceedings. Like other high courts, the Gujarat HC has switched to virtual hearings after the Covid lockdown was put in place in March.

After virtual hearings became the norm, some courts became more restrictive, disallowing anyone but those directly related to the case to attend hearings. A statement by Gujarat high court chief justice Vikram Nath said, "This is aimed at effectuating and broadening the implementation of the open court concept even for virtual hearings."

The link for each day can be accessed on the HC's website and YouTube channel. Links for the following day will be updated in the evenings.

Though currently the live-streaming is done only for the chief justice's court, the administration is keeping a watch on how this goes and then it will decide whether to continue with this, or try out another way to giving access to virtual court proceedings.

The HC referred to a Supreme Court judgment which ruled that the public should be allowed to view court hearings conducted through video conferencing. In a judgment passed by former CJI Dipak Misra and Justice A M Khanwilkar, the SC had ruled that live-streaming of hearings was an extension of the principle of open courts and would bring transparency and accountability.

PAINED AT VICTIMISATION OF REPUBLIC: EDITORS GUILD

NEW DELHI: The Editors Guild of India on Monday spoke out against the "victimisation" of journalists of Republic TV and at the same time, expressed concern over the news channel's 'high-strung conduct' while reporting the death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput.

"The Editors Guild of India is pained too see the unedifying spectacle of hundreds of FIRs being filed against journalists of Republic TV, which is under probe for allegedly manipulating TRPs and spreading discontent against the Mumbai Police. We do not wish to influence the probe... but the victimisation of the journalists should immediately stop. The use of arbitrary state power is not and has never been in the interests of working journalists," the Guild said in a statement.

It said the standoff between Mumbai Police and Republic TV was "unprecedented" and threatened the balance between media freedom and the rule of law. Raising concerns about the news channel's conduct, the Guild drew a reference to Mumbai High Court's observation that Republic was encroaching into the police's domain in the name of investigative journalism. *ENS*

COMMANDERS MEET

Top commanders of the Army on Monday held extensive deliberations on a plethora of issues relating to human resource management in the 1.3 million-strong force, on the opening day of a four-day conference

1 HELD FOR KILLING BROTHER WITH IRON ROD IN UP

Ahmedabad	35	20	Mumbai	32	26
Bhopal	32	16	Panaji	32	24
Jaipur	34	19	Patna	32	17
Amritsar	30	13	Lucknow	34	16
Chennai	31	26	Port Blair	31	24
Kolkata	32	24	Imphal	27	17
Srinagar	21	02	Chandigarh	32	16

Nadda's oblique attack on Chirag

BJP chief J P Nadda on Monday said some people are trying to make a dent in the NDA and "we should remain cautious against them", in remarks seen as an oblique attack on LJP's Chirag Paswan. "On one hand, they criticise Nitish Kumar but on the other they praise the PM," Nadda, addressing a rally, said.

Campaign ends for first phase

Curtain came down on Monday over campaign for 71 Assembly segments of Bihar which go to polls on October 28, in the first phase of elections. Leading the NDA charge, PM Narendra Modi flew down to address as many as three rallies where he urged the voters to vote CM Nitish Kumar back to power.

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar addresses a poll rally, ahead of the Assembly elections, on Monday | PTI

NITISH 'MR COOL' KUMAR FEELS ELECTION HEAT

Bihar CM has been increasingly losing temper at poll rallies of late

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @Patna

CAMPAIGNING in Kanti, Muzaffarpur district, on Monday, Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar lost his temper when a group of people raised slogans against him.

"Apne maa se poocho RJD ke 15 saal mein kya hua (Go ask your mother about the 15 year of RJD rule)," he barked quite uncharacteristically.

There was a similar reaction at Parsa in Saran district on October 21. A group of locals, said to be supporters of the Rashtriya Janata Dal, began shouting *"Lalu zindabad"* slogans even as Nitish was speaking.

"Kahe halla kar rahe ho? Kya bol rahe ho? (Why are you making noise and creating a nuisance? What are you talking about?" he said angrily, adding: *"Apne baap aur maa se jungle raj ke bare mein me poohcho* (Go and ask your father and mother about the jungle raj)," he retorted.

Nitish was campaigning for Chandrika Rai, the father-in-law of Lalu Prasad's elder son Tej Pratap Yadav. Tej Pratap and his wife Aishwarya Rai have fallen out following a marital dispute.

The jeering enraged Nitish so much that he turned more hostile towards Lalu's family, wanting to know how a well-educated woman like Aishwarya could be ill-treated.

Political observers and even his critics are surprised at his behaviour as he is widely known to be politically correct, not easily ruffled and tempered in his utterances.

In the 2015 election campaign, when the Bharatiya Janata Party and Nitish's party were opponents, the Bihar CM maintained a level of decency even after he was personally attacked by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"I was hurt when he withdrew his support. But when he did the same thing to a Mahadalit such as Jitan Manjhi, then I figured out there is something wrong in his political DNA," Modi had said of Nitish after the Bihar CM and Manjhi had parted ways.

"Nitish did not lose his cool in 2015 but this time he gets irritated when Chirag Paswan and Tejashwi Yadav attack him," a source said.

Taking a swipe at Nitish, Tejashwi tweeted that the CM had become "exhausted and stale in his politics. He avoids speaking about real issues and facts."

"It shows his frustration. His popularity is declining and power is slipping away from his hands," RJD spokesperson Mritunjay Tiwari said.

But Janata Dal-United leaders defended the CM and said the party would get a full mandate. He dislikes "indiscipline and any kind of hoogalism," a leader close to Nitish said.

While Tejashwi has gone to town over the rising unemployment in the state, repeatedly criticizing the Bihar CM over the issue, Chirag has singled out Nitish in his attacks, alleging corruption for which he has vowed to jail the JD-U leader.

"Be it the CM himself or officials, whoever is found to be involved in corruption will be sent to jail after the LJP-supported BJP government is formed in the state," he said.

Dalit youth burnt to death in Rajasthan

RAJESH ASNANI @Jaipur

A Dalit youth was allegedly burnt to death in Alwar district by his employers who were enraged by his frequent demands for pending wages. One of the two suspects is the son of the local sarpanch.

This is the second such horrific case in the state. Over a fortnight back, a priest was set ablaze in Karauli district over a land dispute.

The local police said victim Kamal Kishore Dhanka's brother, Roop Singh Dhanka, filed a complaint, alleging Kamal died in a fire that was "intentionally" ignited.

According to the complaint, Dhanka, 23, worked at a liquor outlet run by Rakesh Yadav and Subhash Chand at Kumpur-Bhageri road. Whenever Kamal asked for his wages, pending for five months, the contractor would threaten and beat him.

On Saturday afternoon, the two owners came to Dhankas' home at Jhadka village and took Kamal along with them. The following day, the Dhanka family came to know that the liquor outlet had caught fire. When they reached the spot along with the local police, they found that Kamal's burnt body was lying inside an iron container-cum-deep freezer at the liquor outlet. The family alleged that the owners poured petrol on Kamal, forced him to stay inside and then set fire to the container.

On their complaint, the police have registered a case of murder against Rakesh and Subhash under various sections of the SC-ST Act. Deputy SP Tara Chand said Rakesh Yadav is the son of local sarpanch of Machrauli panchayat. "We have sent a forensic team to the spot for a detailed investigation," said Chand.

The family initially refused to allow a post-mortem and insisted on a judicial inquiry. Later, on persuasion of the police, they agreed to the post-mortem which was conducted by a medical board.

Bhiwadi SP Rammoorti Joshi said the burnt body of the victim was kept inside an iron box that was used to store beer bottles.

ANTI-RELIGIOUS

Kathua case lawyer booked over tweet

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

THE J&K Police has registered an FIR against woman advocate Deepika Singh Rajawat for allegedly hurting religious sentiments of a community in her tweet on Navratri. The lawyer, who fought for the justice of a nomad girl brutally raped and murdered in Kathua in January 2018, has alleged that the FIR was registered at the behest of BJP and said she would challenge the FIR.

The Gandhi Nagar police station in Jammu registered the case against Rajawat under Sections 505 (b)(2), 294 and 295 A of the IPC.

On October 19, Rajawat had tweeted a cartoon with a caption "Irony" to make a point about women's safety. She had put together two parts — in one part titled "other days", a man is aggressively holding legs of a woman, depicting sexual violence, and in the other part titled "Navratri", a man is touching the feet of a Hindu goddess. "It highlighted the conduct and not the religion. I never hurt religious sentiments as I did not say anything against religion. I am a proud Hindu and draw inspiration from my religion," Rajawat told this newspaper.

3 PDP leaders quit over Mehbooba's statement, BJP 'flag march' continues

FAYAZ WANI @Srinagar

UNHAPPY with PDP president Mehbooba Mufti's statement about not hoisting the Tricolour till J&K's special status is restored, three senior leaders from the Jammu region quit the party on Monday, while BJP workers, for the third time in as many days, hoisted the national flag inside the PDP office in the city and took out a 'Tiranga march' in Srinagar.

The three leaders included T S Bajwa, Hassan Ali Waffa and Bed Mahajan. BJP leaders have hit out at Mehbooba for her remarks, saying seditious statements will not be tolerated. In Jammu, over a dozen BJP workers carrying the Tricolour barged into the PDP office at Gandhi Nagar and hoisted the flag amid heavy sloganeering.

The BJP workers said in a democratic country, everybody has the right to express her views "but an insult to the Tricolour and the Constitution cannot be tolerated".

Similarly in Srinagar, the saffron party workers took out a Tiranga car rally under a tight security cover to mark the 73rd anniversary of the signing of Instrument of Accession by then J&K ruler Maharaja Hari Singh. The vehicles carrying the BJP leaders and workers left from Tagore Hall to Sheri Kashmir International Convention Complex on the bank of Dal Lake through high-security Gupkar Road. The traffic was suspended in the area for smooth passage of the rally, which passed through residences of three former CMs Farooq Abdullah, Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba.

BJP leader Altaf Thakur told reporters that the Tiranga rally was a befitting reply to all those "anti-national" leaders and parties, who show disrespect to the national flag.

On Friday, Mehbooba had said she was not interested in contesting polls or holding the Tricolour till the Constitutional changes enforced on August 5 last year were restored.

The police also detained three BJP workers from Kupwara who tried to hoist the Tricolour at Clock Tower at centre Lal Chowk.

BJP takes out a 'Tiranga' rally to mark Accession Day in Srinagar | ZAHOOR PUNJABI

> **We, your party colleagues in Jammu region are feeling quite uncomfortable over some of your actions and undesirable utterances, especially which hurt patriotic sentiments**
>
> Joint letter by resigned PDP leaders

Rlys stops freight trains in Punjab, farmers meet today

HARPREET BAJWA @Chandigarh

THE railways has stopped goods trains to Punjab despite protesting farmers' groups reportedly allowing them.

The farmers' representatives will meet in Delhi on Tuesday to decide the agitation's future. The railways said on Monday that a few goods trains were stopped by the protestors at Moga, Jaitu and Talwandi Sabo carrying wheat and coal.

The movement of goods trains has been affected in the state since September 24 due to the farmers' agitations against the new farm laws. On October 21, the farmers decided that only goods trains would be allowed to pass, and that decision on passenger trains would be taken on November 4.

Sources said in the last few days till Sunday, both Ferozepur and Ambala divisions operated around 173 goods trains. But at many places, the rakes came back from midway reporting disruption.

Divisional Rail Manager (Ferozepur Division), Rajesh Aggarwal said a few empty passenger trains being taken to the maintenance yards were stopped by the farmers. "On October 23, we decided to stop the inward movement of good trains till October 29. We'll decide further as the situation develops."

Balbir Singh Rajewal (BKU-Rajewal group chief) said the railways' decision is an arm-twisting tactic.

Kamana Raj Aggarwalla, Regional Chairperson of Engineering Export Promotion Council (North), said at least 3,500 containers are stuck in Ludhiana due to the farmers' agitation. "These are ready for dispatch. Taking the containers by road is a short-term solution and is very expensive," she said.

Party's candidates list

UTTAR PRADESH

Hardeep Singh Puri • Arun Singh • Haridwar Dubey • Brajlal • Neeraj Shekhar • Geeta Shakya • BL Verma • Seema Dwivedi

UTTARAKHAND

Naresh Bansal

BJP renominates Puri for RS elections

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday announced its candidates from Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand for the November 9 Rajya Sabha elections, renominating Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri. The Aviation Minister is one of the eight candidates in the party's list for election to the Upper House from Uttar Pradesh.

The BJP also renominated its national general secretary Arun Singh and Neeraj Shekhar, who had quit the Samajwadi Party to join the saffron party last year. It fielded Naresh Bansal for the lone seat from Uttarakhand.

The party has also fielded former UP Police officer Brij Lal, once close to BSP supremo Mayawati.

Besides them, Geeta Shakya, Haridwar Dubey, BL Varma and Seema Dwivedi have been nominated. Earlier this month the Election Commission had announced elections to 10 Rajya Sabha seats in Uttar Pradesh and one in Uttarakhand, falling vacant on November 25.

With the BJP having 304 members in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly, the election for the 10 Rajya Sabha seats from the state may turn out to be a nearly one-sided affair for the party, feel poll analysts.

The BJP's all eight nominees for Rajya Sabha from Uttar Pradesh are likely to win as the party has the three-fourth majority in the state assembly. Similarly, its nominee for Rajya Sabha from Uttarakhand is also expected to win.

With these nine new possible members, the BJP's own tally in Rajya Sabha will cross 90 in the 245-member house. The 10 Rajya Sabha seats from Uttar Pradesh that are falling vacant are three of the BJP, four of the Samajwadi Party, two of the Bahujan Samaj Party and one of the Congress.

TMC launches e-drive to gauge anti-BJP sentiment

PRANAB MONDAL @Kolkata

THE political slugfest between the ruling Trinamool Congress and BJP has intensified on social media. The ruling party has launched a new drive titled 'Mark Yourself Safe from BJP' to gauge the sentiment against the saffron camp ahead of the 2021 Assembly polls.

The campaign has been launched on 'Banglar Gorbo Mamata' (Bengal's pride Mamata) Twitter handle and a new website with over 4.31 lakh people already marking themselves 'safe' in the past 48 hours.

The Bengal BJP runs a strong IT cell to campaign against the TMC government.

"Children at their study-age are being given swords and guns. People are being attacked on the line of their religious identity. All of us should stand against the strategy of divisive politics. To mark yourself safe from the BJP, visit the website," the TMC said on its Twitter handle. The website portrayed the photographs of alleged misrules in the states ruled by the BJP. It also displayed the photos of homebound migrants' plight.

"Social media platforms are unavoidable now. This is one of our attempts to counter the BJP's strong presence on social media platforms. Our campaign will help us to assess the anti-BJP sentiment in the state," said a senior TMC leader.

The TMC's social media presence is overseen by election strategist Prashant Kishor and his team. Kishor was hired by the ruling party after its unimpressive performance in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. Early this month, the TMC launched another digital campaign against the UP government in the Hathras gang-rape case.

Fadnavis sets example, admitted in govt hospital

Setting an example for politicians and bureaucrats, Devendra Fadnavis, former CM and the leader of Opposition in Maharashtra, has decided to be admitted at a state-run hospital in Mumbai after he was tested positive for Covid-19.

Several ministers and bureaucrats in the state who has tested coronavirus positive preferred plush private hospitals in Mumbai over government or civic body-run hospitals. However, as a precautionary measure, Fadnavis has also been consulting private hospital doctors. Sources said Fadnavis, also the in-charge of the Bihar Assembly elections for the BJP, is doing well. St George's hospital is part of the JJ Group of hospitals which is the Maharashtra government's largest health facility. "I have been working every single day since the lockdown, but now it seems that God wants me to stop for a while and take a break! I have tested #COVID19 positive and in isolation. Taking all medication & treatment as per the advice of the doctors," Fadnavis had tweeted.

MUMBAI DIARY

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI
Our correspondent in Maharashtra
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Khadse's entry may make NCP ministers nervous

NCP chief Sharad Pawar's decision to induct estranged BJP leader Eknath Khadse into the party is seen as a message to many OBC leaders that he will no longer rely heavily on them in the future. It is also an indication to his nephew Ajit Pawar that he is still the main face of the NCP and can expand the party without the latter's consent. Khadse's entry has also made many ministers in the NCP nervous fearing that he could be given a berth in the Uddhav Thackeray government and for that, one of the NCP ministers has to vacate the seat for the ex-BJP leader. Now, the question is who will reign? Khadse had been the seniormost BJP leader in the state after the demise of Gopinath Munde on June 3, 2014.

Shatrughan begins campaigning for son in Bihar

With his son Luv Sinha taking the electoral plunge from Bankipur assembly seat in Patna, actor-politician Shatrughan Sinha said it's an encouraging trend that youths are entering politics, but made it clear that he is not retiring. The actor wanted to campaign for his son and asked the Congress leadership to provide him a chartered plane for Patna. The Congress, which is in power in Maharashtra, has accepted the requested, said sources. He is in Bihar for poll campaigns.

No-entry for NCP defectors: Pawar

NCP chief Sharad Pawar has made it clear that he will not allow the defectors, who had joined the BJP before the 2019 Lok Sabha and Assembly elections. Recently, BJP MLA Rana Jagjit Singh, who earlier was with the NCP, wanted to return to his old party, but the party veteran has turned down his request. Another former NCP leader from Dhule wished to come back to the party, but Pawar has refused to entertain him, too. Pawar, however, said he was open to inducting BJP leaders into the NCP, but will not entertain those who have left his party and the joined the saffron camp.

$8.8 bn

Dunkin' Brands, which owns Baskin-Robbins, is in talks to go private in a deal valuing it at $8.8 billion

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	16	4	SNY	Los Angeles	26	13	SNY
Colombo	31	23	SNY	Melbourne	18	9	LC
Dhaka	32	21	SNY	Moscow	11	4	LC
Dubai	33	20	SNY	New York	16	10	LC
Houston	25	21	LR	Singapore	32	25	LR
Istanbul	23	15	LC	Toronto	7	1	LC
London	14	8	HR	Washington	19	13	LC

Muslims call for French goods boycott as Macron row escalates

Products already pulled off supermarket shelves in Gulf states; leaders of Turkey & Pakistan furious with French prez

DUBAI

MUSLIMS in West Asia and beyond on Monday broadened their calls for boycotts of French products and protests, as a clash over depictions of the Prophet Muhammad and the limits of free speech intensified.

Kuwaiti stores pulled French yogurts and bottles of sparkling water from their shelves, Qatar University canceled a French culture week, and calls to stay away from the Carrefour grocery store chain were trending on social media in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Protests have been held in Turkey and the Gaza Strip and are being planned in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The beheading earlier this month of a French teacher who had shown caricatures of the prophet in class has once again ignited a debate over such depictions — which Muslims consider blasphemous. The growing confrontation is raising political tensions between France and some Muslim-majority nations, especially Turkey, and could put pressure on French firms.

The teacher, who was killed by an 18-year-old Chechen refugee, has been heralded at home as a national symbol of France's dearly held secular ideals and its rejection of any whiff of religious intrusion in public spheres.

A youth holds a photograph of France's President Emmanuel Macron, stamped with a shoe mark, during a protest against caricatures in Istanbul | AP

French President Emmanuel Macron has vigorously defended such depictions as protected under the right to free speech. At a memorial for the teacher last week, Macron said: "We won't renounce the caricatures."

On Sunday, he appeared to double down. In tweets published in both Arabic and English, he wrote: "We will not give in, ever."

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has been the most vocal on the political front, saying Macron needed his head examined and had lost his way. France responded by recalling its envoy to Turkey. Erdogan also joined calls for a boycott of French goods.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan said the French leader chose to encourage anti-Muslim sentiment and deliberately provoke Muslims by encouraging the display of blasphemous cartoons targeting Islam. Pakistan also summoned the French ambassador to lodge a protest over Macron's condoning of the caricatures.

Amid the political barbs, neither Erdogan nor Khan has publicly condemned the killing of the French teacher. But many Muslims lament the expectation that they must condemn terrorist attacks they see as having nothing to do with Islam or its values. *AP*

Europeans rally behind France

PARIS

AS the backlash over France's reaction widened, European leaders rallied behind the French president.

"They are defamatory comments that are completely unacceptable, particularly against the backdrop of the horrific murder of the French teacher Samuel Paty by an Islamist fanatic," German Chancellor Angela Merkel's spokesman Steffen Seibert said, following Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's comments on Macron needing "mental checks".

The prime ministers of Italy, the Netherlands and Greece also expressed support for France, as did European Commission president Ursula von der Leyen.

"President Erdogan's words addressing President @EmmanuelMacron are unacceptable," Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte tweeted, adding that the Netherlands stood "for the freedom of speech and against extremism and radicalism."

Erdogan on Monday compared the treatment of Muslims in Europe to that of Jews before World War II, saying they were the object of a "lynching campaign." *AFP*

Chile's President Sebastian Pinera (C) acknowledges the result of the referendum at the Moneda presidential palace surrounded by his cabinet | AP

Pinochet-era constitution to be scrapped after Chile vote

SANTIAGO

CHILEANS voted overwhelmingly in a landmark referendum Sunday to replace their dictatorship-era constitution, long seen as underpinning the nation's glaring economic and social inequalities.

The result set off wild celebrations across the capital and other cities after voters threw out the constitution left by the regime of 1973-1990 dictator Augusto Pinochet.

Thousands of people flocked onto the streets of Santiago amid a cacophony of horn-blaring to celebrate a crushing victory for the "Approve" campaign -- by 78.28% to 21.72 with over 99% of the votes counted.

"I never imagined that us Chileans would be capable of uniting for such a change!" said a jubilant Maria Isabel Nunez, 46, as she walked in the crowd hand-in-hand with her 20-year-old daughter.

Acknowledging the result, President Sebastian Pinera called on the nation to work together for a "new constitution" in a speech broadcast from his Moneda Palace.

The result comes as a slap in the face for Chile's political class, as per Marcelo Mella, a political scientist at the University of Santiago. "Such a strong vote in favor of the constitutional convention should be read as a rejection of the political parties, which to a large extent have been administrators of Pinochet's Constitution, of the regime we inherited from him," Mella said. *AFP*

With Dems powerless, Barrett set to be confirmed

WASHINGTON

A divided Senate is set to confirm Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court, giving the country a ninth justice Monday as Republicans overpower Democratic opposition to secure President Donald Trump's nominee the week before Election Day.

Democratic leaders asked Vice President Mike Pence to stay away from presiding over her Senate confirmation due to potential health risks after his aides tested positive for COVID-19. But although Pence isn't needed to break a tie, the vote would present a dramatic opportunity for him to preside over confirmation of Trump's third Supreme Court justice.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer and his leadership team wrote that not only would Pence's presence violate Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, "it would also be a violation of common decency and courtesy."

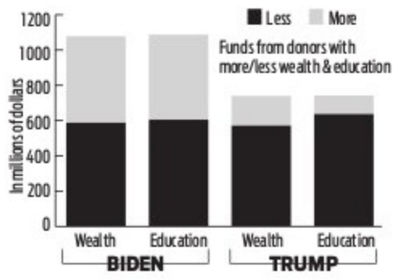
But Senate Republicans control the chamber and Barrett's confirmation isn't in doubt. The 48-year-old Barrett would secure a conservative court majority for the foreseeable future, potentially opening a new era of rulings on abortion, gay marriage and the Affordable Care Act. A case against the Obamacare is scheduled to be heard November 10.

Judge Amy Coney Barrett | AP

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell scoffed at the "apocalyptic" warnings from critics that the judicial branch was becoming mired in partisan politics as he defended its transformation under his watch. *AP*

CLASS DIVIDE IN PREZ CAMPAIGN DONORS

Biden's campign has raised more than Trump's from people living in the wealthiest and most educated zip codes, *The New York Times* reported, based on $1.8 bn donations from 7.6 mn people



Trump charges into battleground states

Donald Trump embarked Monday on a final-week charge through nearly a dozen states ahead of the election, overlooking a surge of coronavirus cases in the US and a fresh outbreak in his own White House. His Democratic rival, Joe Biden, is holding far fewer events in an effort to demonstrate that he's taking the pandemic seriously.

REPCO HOME FINANCE LIMITED
Repco Home Finance
109, First Floor, A - Wing, Mittal Tower, M.G.Road, Bengaluru - 560001.

TENDER - CUM - AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Sale of Immovable Properties Mortgaged to Repco Home Finance Ltd. Under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002
Whereas **Borrower: Mr. C. Yogesha,** S/o, Cheluvappa, **Co-Borrower: Mrs. Hema,** W/o, C. Yogesha, have borrowed money from Repco Home Finance Limited, **Basaveshwar nagar Branch (now the account transferred to ARB Bangalore)** against the mortgage of the immovable property more fully described in the schedule hereunder, the company has issued a **Demand Notice** under Section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 on **31-10-2018** calling upon them to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being vide **Loan Account No. 2581890000352** being **Rs.11,82,030/-** on **31-10-2018** together with further interest, costs and expenses within 60 days from the date of the said notice.
Whereas the borrower & co-borrowers having failed to pay the amount due to the Company as called for in the said demand notice, the Company has taken possession of the secured asset more fully described in the schedule hereunder on **17-03-2020** under Section 13 (4) of the Act.
Whereas the borrowers having failed to pay the dues in full, the secured creditor, Repco Home Finance Limited has decided to sell the under mentioned secured asset in **"As is where is condition"** and **"As is what is condition"** under Section 13(4) of the Act read with Rules 8 & 9 of the Security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 for realization of the debts dues to the company. The dues of the borrower being vide **Loan Account No. 2581890000352** being **Rs.14,47,698/-** as on **12-10-2020.**

DETAILS OF SALE

Date and Time of E-Auction	02-12-2020, 11.00 A.M -12.00 P.M (with unlimited auto extension of 5 minutes)
EMD (10% of Reserve Price)	Rs.4,80,000/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Eighty Thousand Only)
Reserve Price	Rs.48,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Eight Lakhs Only)
Last Date & time for submitting E -Tenders	01-12-2020, 04.00 P.M
Minimum Bid Increment Amount	Rs.10,000/-

Description of Property:
All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No. 313, Old V. P. Khatha No. 76/5/313, New V.P Khatha No. 24/313, P.I.D 11 B, Khatha No. 150200203500700027, situated at Jarakabandekaval Village (Subhedhar Palya), Under the Jurisdiction of Ramachandrapura Panchayath, Yelahankha Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, measuring East to West 30 feet and North to South 40 ft, totally measuring to 1200 Sq.ft., and Bounded on the:-
East by: Site No.314 **West by:** Site No.312 **North by:** Private Property **South by:** 30 Feet Road

Terms and Conditions
The intending bidders of the property should send their bids in the prescribed tender form in a closed cover along with EMD of 10% of the reserve price by means of RTGS / NEFT / DD / Banker's Cheque drawn in favour of **"Repco Home Finance Limited"** payable at **Bengaluru** or on the website **WWW.Bankeauctions.com.** Tender form not in the prescribed format will not be accepted.
For inspection of the property the intending bidders may contact the Branch Head, Repco Home Finance Limited, **Bengaluru** Branch, on all working days between 10A.M to 5P.M. **Contact Nos. (080) 41233109, 99867-72220.**
Place: **Bengaluru** Authorised officer
Date: **16-10-2020** **Repco Home Finance Limited**

JAPAN REJECTS PACT ON BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPONS

祝 核兵器禁止条約発効確定！ 唯一の戦争被爆国日本も批准を！
Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons to enter into force!
The A-bombed country Japan must ratify the treaty!

Survivors of the atomic bombs dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima call for the Japanese government to sign the nuke-ban treaty | AP

TOKYO

JAPAN said Monday it will not sign a UN treaty that bans nuclear weapons and does not welcome its entry into force next year, rejecting the wishes of atomic bomb survivors in Japan who are urging the government to join and work for a nuclear-free world.

The United Nations confirmed Saturday that 50 countries have ratified the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, paving the way for its entry into force in 90 days. The announcement was hailed by anti-nuclear activists, but the treaty has been strongly opposed by the US and other major nuclear powers.

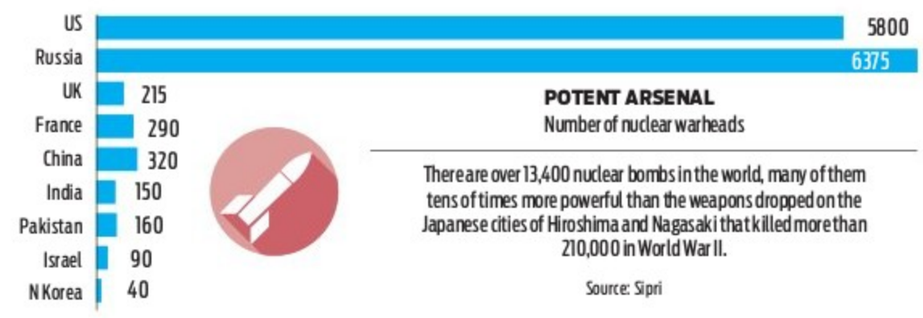
Chief Cabinet Secretary Katsunobu Kato said Japan shares the goal of achieving a nuclear-free world, but does not think the treaty is the way to go. "We doubt if support is growing even among non-nuclear weapons states, let alone nuclear weapons states."

Japan has said that it is not realistic to pursue the treaty with nuclear powers and non-nuclear weapons states sharply divided over it. Kato said Japan has chosen instead to serve as a bridge to narrow the gap between the two sides.

Asked if Japan at least welcomes the treaty taking effect next year, Kato only repeated Japan's position.

Japan has decided not to sign the treaty even though it is the world's only country to have suffered nuclear attacks and has renounced its own possession, production or hosting of nuclear weapons.

That is because Japan hosts 50,000 American troops and is protected by the US nuclear umbrella. Its post-World War II security pact with the U.S. also complicates efforts to get Japan to sign the treaty as it beefs up its own military to deal with perceived threats from North Korea and China. *AP*



POTENT ARSENAL
Number of nuclear warheads

There are over 13,400 nuclear bombs in the world, many of them tens of times more powerful than the weapons dropped on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki that killed more than 210,000 in World War II.

Source: Sipri

ICICI Bank | **Branch Office:** ICICI Bank Limited, # 4/10, 1st Floor, West Wing, Mythri Centre, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli,Bangalore – 560068

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) /Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Mr. Atul Tiwari (Borrower) Mrs. Roli Tiwari (Co- Borrower) Loan Account Number LBBNG00002140062 LBBNG00002140063	All That Piece And Parcel Of Residentially Converted Land Comprised Of Survey Nos. 30 (7 Acres 24.5 Guntas, 31 (6 Acres 25.5 Guntas), 32 (9 Acres 02 Guntas), 33 (9 Acres 37.25 Guntas), 34 (6 Acres 0.5 Guntas) And 161 (2 Acres) Of Kadatanamale Village, Hesaragatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore In All Measuring 41 Acres 9.75 Guntas (i.e., 17,96,576.51 Square Feet) (which Includes The Land Relinquished To An Extent Of 10 Acres 28.68 Guntas (i.e, 466843.94 Square Feet) In Favour Of Member Secretary, Biaapa, In Compliance With The Requirements Of Sanction Plan And An Area Of 24,193,40 Square Feet Reserved For Locating Electrical Sub- Station Or Yard) And The Entire Property Is Bounded As Follows; East By: Land In Survey No.160, Doddaballapur Road, Land In Survey Nos. 162,163,164, 40 And 41;, West By: Land In Survey Nos.41,29,30/7 (P), 31/4(P), 31/3(P), 31/2(P), 31/1(P), 34/2(P), 34/1(P);, North By: Land In Survey Nos. 37,38 And 160:, South By: Land In Survey No.41 And 29; Schedule- 'B' (Property Convered Under This Deed) An Undivided 0.0239% (zero Point Zero Two Three Nine Percent) Share (Equivalent To 312.47 Square Feet) In The Land Measuring 1006611.05 Square Feet Being The Land Apportioned To The Residential Development Forming Part Of Schedule 'a' Property. Schedule-'C' (Description Of The Apartment) A Three Bedroom Apartment Bearing No.307 On The Third Floor In Block/ Wing "G1" Of The Residential Apartment Complex Known As "Provident Welworth City" Constructed On The Schedule 'A" Property, Having A Super Built-up Area Of 1075 Square Feet (Which Is Inclusive Of The Floors, Ceiling And Walls Between The Apartments And Proportionate Share In All Common Areas And Clubhouse Area) Together With An Exclusive With An Exclusive Right To Use One Stilt Reserved Car Parking Space. Building Is RCC Framed Structure With Vitrified The Flooring, Metal Windows And Wooden Doors Connected With Electricity And Water Supply.	Rs. 29,74,158/- as on (October 19, 2020	Rs. 35,21, 000/- / Rs. 3,55, 000/-	November 06, 2020 From 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM	November 26, 2020 From 11:00 AM To 12:00Noon
2.	Mrs. Geetha Krishnan (Borrower) Mr. Gokul G Krishnan (Co- Borrower) Loan Account Number LBBNG00002983889	All That Piece And Parcel Of Residential Converted Land To Extent Of 2-00 Acres In Sy. No.145/P16, 0-38 Guntas In Sy. No.146 And 3-00 Acres In Sy. No.145/7B1, Totally Measuring To An Extent Of 5 Acres 38 Guntas Situated At Nelaguli Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Which Is Duly Converted From Agricultural Purposes To Non- Agricultural Residential Purposes By The Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District Bangalore Vide Their Conversion Order Official Memorandum No. ALN (SU)SR/61/2006-07, Dated 15-01-2009 And The Layout Plan Was Duly Approved By The Kanakapura Planning Authority, Kanakapura Vide Letter Bearing No. KPA/LAO/44/2008-09, Dated 27-07-2009 Duly Signed By The Member Secretary, Kanakapura Planning Authority, Kanakapura And Bounded On The:- Schedule B Property (property Hereby Conveyed Under This Sale Deed) Item No .1 All That Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing Site No.62, V.p.khatha No.415/398/62, Presently As Per Form No.9 And Form No.11 Property Bearing E-property No.150200302000920182, Formed Out Of Residential Converted Land Bearing Sy. No.145/P16, Sy. No.145/7B1 And Sy. No.146 Of Nelaguli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bnagalore South Taluk, Which Is Duly Converted From Agriculture Purposes To Non- Agricultural Residential Purposes By The Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District,bangalore Vide Their Conversion Order Official Memorandum No. ALN (SU) SR/61/2006-07, Dated 15-01-2009 And The Layout Plan Was Duly Approved By The Kanakapura Planning Authority, Kanakapura Vide Letter Bearing No. KPA/LAO/44/2008-09, Dated 27-07-2009 Duly Signed By The Member Secretary,kanakapura Planning Authority, Kanakapura And Measuring:- East To West: 12.59 Meters, North To South: 8.165 Meters, Totally Measuring: 102.80 Square Meters. Bounded On The:- East By: 9 Meters Road, West By: Site No.61 North By: Site No. 63, South By: Private Property. ITEM No. 2 All That Piece And Parcel Of Property Bearing Site No.63, V.P. Khatha No.416/399/63, Presently As Per Form No.9 And Form No.11 Property Bearing E- Property No.150200302000920092, Formed Out Of Residential Converted Land Bearing Sy. No.145/p16, Sy. No.145/7b1 And Sy. No.146 Of Nelaguli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bnagalore South Taluk, Which Is Duly Converted From Agriculture Purposes To Non- Agricultural Residential Purposes By The Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District,bangalore Vide Their Conversion Order Official Memorandum No. ALN (SU) SR/61/2006-07, Dated 15-01-2009 And The Layout Plan Was Duly Approved By The Kanakapura Planning Authority, Kanakapura Vide Letter Bearing No. KPA/LAO/44/2008-09, Dated 27-07-2009 Duly Signed By The Member Secretary,kanakapura Planning Authority, Kanakapura And Measuring:- East To West: 12.19 Meters, North To South: 9.14 Meters, Totally Measuring: 111.41 Square Meters. Bounded On The:- East By: 9 Meters Road, West By: Site No.61, North By: Site No.64, South By: Site No.62,	Rs. 69,25,135/- (as on October 19 2020)	Rs. 50,00, 000/- / Rs. 5,00, 000/-	November 08, 2020 From 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM	November 26, 2020 From 01:00 PM To 02:00 PM

The online auction will be conducted on website **(URL Link-https://disposalhub.com)** of our auction agency M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagors/ noticee are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till **November 25, 2020** before **05:00 PM** else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.
The Prospective Bidder (s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at **ICICI Bank Limited, # 4/10, 1st Floor, West Wing, Mythri Centre, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore – 560068.** and thereafter they need to submit their offer through the above mentioned website only on or before **November 25, 2020** before **05:00 PM** along with scan image of Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder (s) are unable to submit their offer through the website then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at **ICICI Bank Limited, # 4/10, 1st Floor, West Wing, Mythri Centre, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore – 560068.** on or before **November 25, 2020** before **05:00PM.** Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of **"ICICI Bank Limited"** payable at **Bangalore.**
For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact **ICICI Bank Limited** on **9844542086/ 8008999536** or M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited on **9810029926/ 01244233933**
Please note that Marketing agencies **1. M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited. have** also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property.
The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit **www.icicibank.com/n4p4s**
Date: October 27, 2020
Place: Bangalore
Authorized Officer
ICICI Bank Limited

Market Watch

MARKET			GOLD			SILVER			FOREX		
540 ▼	Sensex	40,145.5	₹10 ▼	24 carat (1 gm)	₹5,105	₹1,000 ▼	Per kg	₹61,500	▲ Dollar	73.85
162.6 ▼	Nifty	11,767.75	₹10 ▼	22 carat (1 gm)	₹4,995	₹1 ▼	Per gm	₹61.5	▲ Euro	87.28

Tussle over Future's deal may shift to India

Both Future and Reliance have said they will take steps to ensure their ₹24,713 cr deal proceeds without any delay

SESA SEN & BISMAH MALIK
@ New Delhi / Bengaluru

THE potential legal battle with Amazon, which has challenged Kishore Biyani-led Future group over its deal to sell retail assets to Reliance Industries in an arbitration court in Singapore, may now shift to India with rivals likely to approach Indian law courts. On Monday, Future Retail said it is not a party to the agreement under which Amazon has invoked arbitration proceedings in Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC). Future added that it would take steps to ensure that its proposed deal to sell group assets worth ₹24,713 crore to Reliance proceeds "without any delay".

"FRL has been legally advised that actions taken by the FRL and its board, which are in full compliance of relevant agreements and in the interest of all stakeholders cannot be held back in arbitration proceedings initiated under an agreement to which FRL is not a party," Future Retail said in a regulatory filing. FRL, which operates retail chains as Big Bazar, also said that all relevant agreements are governed by Indian Law and provisions of Indian Arbitration Act and the matter raises several fundamental jurisdictional issues.

The statement comes after US retail giant Amazon secured an interim relief against the proposed sale between the two Indian retail giants. The Jeff Bezos-led firm alleged that Future's sale of its retail, wholesale, logistics and warehousing businesses to rival Reliance violated a non-compete clause it had with the Kishore Biyani Group. Amazon had bought 49 per cent stake in a Future Group unlisted entity Future Coupons with first right to more shares.

The interim order is valid for 90 days. While Future Group is likely to move Delhi High Court in the next few days challenging the interim order. Reliance, too, may challenge the arbitration award from the SIAC before Indian legal forums. Legal experts say that the battle will now shift to India with Amazon also likely to seek to enforce the arbitration award through a legal order in India. "The best possible scenario for Amazon will be to approach an Indian court soon so that the arbitration award is enforced through the Indian legal route and subsequently any proceedings in the RIL-FRL deal may amount to contempt of the court. As for Reliance, it is obvious that the firm did its due-diligence before going ahead and since it is not a party to the arbitration award, it is well within its right to carry on with the deal," said Neerav Merchant, Partner, Majmudar and Partners.

All three parties may eventually have to compromise

Industry observers note it will have to be a mutually agreed deal and Amazon will possibly be given an investment back with a certain amount of profit for a quick resolution. Reliance Retail had also said it intends to enforce its rights and purchase the assets without any delay

India's oil refining capacity to touch 450 MT by 2025

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said that India is planning to nearly double its oil refining capacity to 450 million tonnes (MT) from the current 250 MT by 2025.

"Reforms in Exploration and Licensing Policy were put in place in February 2019. The focus has shifted from 'revenue' to 'production' maximisation. There is also focus on greater transparency and stream-lined procedures. We plan to grow our refining capacities from about 250 to 400 Million Metric tonnes Per Annum by 2025," said the PM speaking at the fourth India Energy Forum alongside. Earlier this year in June, oil minister Dharmendra Pradhan had said that the country is mulling doubling its refining capacity to 450-500 million by the end of 2030.

Modi also said that the world has suffered too long under uncertain oil prices. "For too long, the world has seen crude prices on a roller-coaster. We need to move towards responsible pricing. We have to work towards transparent and flexible markets for both oil and gas," he said. The demand for more transparent and sustainable oil markets has been reiterated several times by Indian authorities over the past decade, since the country remains among the top consumers of oil and gas, and imports the majority of its requirements.

Apart from trying to sate its rapacious crude oil capacity, India had turned to renewable energy projects to reduce its dependence on thermal power. According to the Prime Minister, India is well on track to meet the commitment of increasing renewable energy capacity by 175 GW by 2022. "We have further extended this goal to 450 GW by 2030," he added.

Among other speakers at the event were Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan, Saudi Arabia's Minister of Energy Abdulaziz bin Salman Al Saud and US Secretary of Energy Dan Brouillette. Pradhan said that India's energy agenda is inclusive and sensitive to climate change. The PM also said India's gas market reforms "will give greater marketing freedom in the sale of natural gas through e-bidding" and that it has also launched its first automated national-level gas trading platform in June.

INSOLVENCY

DHFL granted 90 more days for resolution

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

LENDERS of troubled Dewan Housing Finance Corporation (DHFL) will have to wait longer as the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has allowed 90 days extension for the resolution process of the company till January 5, 2021.

The Centre had imposed the lockdown from March 25 till May 31, 2020. However, in Maharashtra, the lockdown was extended until July 31, 2020, and therefore a period of 129 days should be excluded from the CIRP process, the administrator of DHFL had argued. The Mumbai bench of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has allowed the extension for the resolution process of the company, and has also allowed the exclusion of the time of lockdown from the CIRP process.

DHFL is the first financial services company which has been sent to the NCLT under the insolvency and bankruptcy code (IBC). Last year in November, the RBI had superseded its board and placed it under a three-member advisory committee comprising Rajiv Lall, executive chairman of IDFC First Bank; NS Kannan, MD of ICICI Prudential Life, and NS Venkatesh, CEO of the Association of Mutual Funds in India. The company owed over ₹83,800 crore to the banks, the National Housing Board, mutual funds and bondholders. Out of this, about ₹74,000 crore was secured, while over ₹9,800 crore was unsecured.

Recently, it attracted bids from many bidders including Adani Properties, Piramal Enterprises and Oaktree Capital which offered ₹28,000 crore.

Tata Motors on lookout for PV business partner

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

HOMEGROWN auto major Tata Motors is actively scouting for a partner for its Passenger Vehicle (PV) business to be ready for growth in the next decade. The idea of the automaker to collaborate with a partner comes at a time when the market's demands have become more and more challenging and many other carmakers forming similar alliances to support electrification to fuel future growth.

"The whole purpose of subsidiarisation is to actively look for a partner because this is a reality for all of us that a collaboration can unleash a bigger potential in the next decade which is going to see significant investments in new technologies and regulations," Tata Motors President Passenger Vehicles Business Unit (PVBU) Shailesh Chandra was quoted as saying.

Chandra added any kind of support from the government in terms of GST reduction would help the passenger vehicle segment immensely as it would negate some of the price increase in vehicle prices due to the shift to stricter BS-VI emission norms.

Earlier this year, Tata's board had approved to form a separate entity which would house the PV business, including the EV vertical, by transferring relevant assets, IPs and employees directly relatable to the vertical for it to be fully functional on a standalone basis. The move will help the company to save on costs and share the burden of investing in electric cars.

Two of the country's leading automakers- Maruti Suzuki and Mahindra & Mahindra have already sealed collaboration with global players Toyota Motor and Ford, respectively, to develop new vehicles, including electric vehicles and take advantage of one another's expertise and wide reach. Tata's hunt for a partner to form a separate entity coincides with the firm's strong recovery in the domestic market. Its September sales crossed the 21,000-mark for the first time in eight years.

NTPC board to consider share buy back on Nov 2

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

State-run electricity generator NTPC on Monday informed stock exchanges that its Board of directors will meet on November 2, to consider a proposal to buy back shares of the company. The notice said the board would meet to consider the un-audited financial results for the half year ended September 30 and "consider proposal for buyback of equity shares" of the firm.

> A meeting of the Board of Directors of the company is scheduled to be held at New Delhi on Monday, 2nd November, 2020 to consider proposal for buyback of equity shares of the company
>
> NTPC

Markets regulator Sebi had granted exemption to the power utility from certain buyback norms for a proposed merger of wholly-owned subsidiaries with the parent company. This springs from a decision in November last year by the NTPC board to merge Nabinagar Power Generating Company Ltd and Kanti Bijlee Utpadan Nigam with NTPC.

The government currently holds 51.02 per cent stake in the power utility. The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management which has a target of earning ₹2.1 lakh crore from disinvestment receipts is believed to eyeing buy-back of shares by some 6-8 blue-chip PSUs as one of the ways of achieving the target.

Sources said other firms which may be tapped for buy-backs to swell the government's revenue earnings include NMDC, MOIL and Engineers India Ltd. The finance ministry has for several years now been encouraging PSUs who have surplus reserves and do not sufficient capital expenditure plans, to consider buy backs.

Sebi bans Yash Birla, others from market for 2 yrs

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

MARKETS regulator Security Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has barred Birla Pacific Medspa Ltd, Yashovardhan Birla and eight others from the securities market for two years for mis-utilisation of initial public offering (IPO) proceeds.

Birla Pacific Medspa Ltd (BPML), which came out with offer documents in March 2011, had floated its over Rs 65 crore IPO in June 2011. The regulator found that the company made misstatements in the prospectus with regards to the objects of the IPO. While around 75 per cent of the proceeds were promised to be utilised in setting up of Evolve Med Spa centres under the 'objects of the issue' in the prospectus, no such centres have been set up ultimately, Sebi said. Similarly, 15 such centres were promised to be set up by the end of March 2012, but not a single centre was set up by that time, it added. Sebi also said, 50 per cent of the proceeds or ₹31.54 crore were deployed as inter-corporate deposits (ICDs) to group companies, out of which 60 per cent of ICD's were never returned to the company.

This was in stark contrast to the objects of the IPO or the interim use of funds as stated in the prospectus. The prospectus permitted the interim deployment of proceeds as an investment in liquid instruments only and did not permit such deployment of funds as ICDs.

"The fact that funds of IPO proceeds would be deployed as ICDs to group companies of BPML as against the setting up of Evolve Centers was never disclosed in the prospectus. In fact, the prospectus never contemplated that funds would be deployed as ICDs to group companies within five days from the receipt of IPO proceeds without any event of exigency," Sebi noted.

Through such acts, the entities violated the provisions of ICDR (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, the regulator said.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

IEX
Current Price ₹192.9
Target Price ₹245

With Indian Energy Exchange (IEX) expected entry into Longer Duration Contracts and its competitive positioning, we expect market share gains to continue within the Short-Term Market. Long-term potential for IEX remains huge, with just ~4% market share held by exchanges in India's power generation. We expect volumes/PAT for IEX to increase at a 20% CAGR over FY21–23.

— Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *TNIE*.

Airtel IQ to tap into cloud communications market

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

BHARTI Airtel has beaten its rivals to the market in the $1 billion-worth cloud communications segment. The company became the first Indian telco to enter the space on Monday with the launch of Airtel IQ, a cloud-based communications platform that is designed to enable businesses deepen engagement with their customers.

"With just a slice of code, businesses can embed communication services such as Voice, SMS, IVR in their applications and digital properties across desktop and mobile," the company claimed, adding that its clients will be able to communicate securely with customers over Airtel IQ since the communication is encrypted and all mobile/telephone numbers are masked.

The Indian cloud communications market is growing close to 20 per cent annually. The telco has already onboarded several big names to Airtel IQ's beta phase, including Swiggy, Justdial, Urban Company, Havells and Dr. Lal Path Labs. Vivek Sunder, COO, Swiggy, said, "Secure communication between our customers, delivery partners and partner restaurants is key to our service enablement". The firm expects large call centre ecosystem, e-commerce and internet companies, start-ups, banks and those into manufacturing and distribution to be early adopters of the platform, given their need for omni-channel communications. According to Ajay Chitkara, Director and CEO, Airtel Business, the new platform could translate into a 30-40 per cent cost reduction for enterprises as compared to traditional models.

One million businesses

Airtel is already a large player in the B2B connectivity space and serves over one million businesses with a portfolio that spans cloud, connectivity, security, etc.

EXPRESS READ

Jumbotail bags $11mn in funding

New Delhi: Jumbotail, an online B2B marketplace for food and grocery products, said it closed a $11 million (about ₹81.2crore) funding round led by Heron Rock. The series B2 round also saw participation from Jumbofund, Nexus Venture Partners, Siddhi Capital, Reaction Fund, Pimpernel Holdings and a group of HNIs as well as other players Jumbotail will use the funds to scale its core B2B marketplace to new geographies across India, expand its network of 24 stores and grow its private label product portfolio.

IRFC files IPO papers, raises issue size

New Delhi: Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) has filed papers with markets regulator Sebi to float an initial public offering of over 178 crore shares. According to an addendum to the draft red herring prospectus filed with Sebi on Friday, the IPO would see sale of 1,782,069,000 equity shares. This includes a fresh issue of 1,188,046,000 equity shares and an offer for sale of 59.4 crore equity shares by the government. The net proceeds are proposed to be utilised towards its future capital requirements.

Kotak Mahindra Bank Q2 net jumps 27% to ₹2,184 cr

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

KOTAK Mahindra Bank, the country's third largest private sector lender by market capitalisation, reported profit at ₹2,184.5 crore in September ended quarter, registering a 26.7 per cent growth year-on-year, aided by lower provisions. Rise in pre-provision operating profit, NII and other income also boosted profitability.

Net interest income (NII) — the difference between interest earned and interest expended — increased 16.8 per cent to ₹3,913.2 crore in July-September quarter compared to corresponding period of last fiscal.

Provisions and contingencies fell 9.6 percent to ₹368.59 crore compared to year-ago period, while the sequential fall was 61.7 percent. Provisions and contingencies fell 9.6 per cent to ₹368.59 crore compared to year-ago period, while the sequential fall was 61.7 per cent. COVID-19 related provisions as at September 2020 stood at ₹1,279 crore (0.62 per cent of net advances). Non-specific provisions towards advances (including standard and COVID provisions) is at 177 per cent of the net NPA of the bank," the company added.

On the asset quality front, gross non-performing assets (NPAs) as a percentage of gross advances fell 15 bps sequentially to 2.55 per cent and net NPA was down 23 bps QoQ to 0.64 per cent, partly due to Supreme Court's interim order on September 3 which directed that accounts which were not declared as NPA till August 31, 2020 shall not be declared as NPA till further orders.

Denies takeover talks with IndusInd Bank

The Uday Kotak-promoted bank on Monday said they were open to M&A opportunities for growth but junked Bloomberg reports that claimed Kotak Mahindra Bank is exploring a takeover of smaller rival IndusInd Bank.

Bollywood, cricket drive India's brands

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

INDIA's biggest celebrity brands remain almost exclusively dominated by the film industry (dominated by Bollywood) and cricket, shows a large spectrum survey conducted by The Indian Institute of Human Brands (IIHB). IIHB's 'TIARA Research Report on Celebrities as Human Brands' enumerates the results of its survey into which celebrities exert the most influence, with a sample size of 60,000 pan-India.

Bollywood dominates the list. Amitabh Bachchan was voted as India's Most Trusted overall. In Bollywood, Akshay Kumar and Deepika Padukone top their respective lists, while Kapil Sharma led Television. As for cricket, MS Dhoni was Most Trusted with a TIARA rating of 86.0 while cricketer Mithali Raj was not far behind at 83.9. Then, actors Salman Khan and Kangana Ranaut topped the most controversial brands list.

Muthoot Finance to raise ₹2,000 cr through bonds

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

MUTHOOT Finance limited plans to raise upto ₹2,000 crore through public offering of Secured Redeemable Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs). Proceeds will be utilised primarily for lending activities, the company said on Monday.

The proposed debenture issue will have a base issue size of ₹100 crore with an option to retain over subscription up to ₹1,900 crores aggregating upto tranche limit of ₹2,000 crore. The Issue opens on October 27, 2020 and closes on November 20, 2020 with an option to close on such earlier date or extended date as may be decided by the Board of Directors or NCD committee.

"In the present scenario of lower interest rates and expectations of interest rates falling further, our issue offers safe long term investment options with high stable returns to investors. The issue will augment the company's long term funding requirements thereby supporting the stable growth that our company envisages," said George Alexander Muthoot, Managing Director of Muthoot Finance Ltd.

"We expect the current issue, too, be well received by the market in line with our previous NCD issues as there is a limited comparable investment avenue available," he added. The NCDs are proposed to be listed on BSE and the allotment will be on first come first serve basis.

Ganguly for players' families in Australia

BCCI president Sourav Ganguly feels that Indian players should be accompanied by their families for the upcoming tour of Australia. "I don't see a reason why the families won't be allowed to come. The Australian board is trying to accommodate them," Ganguly told *The Age*.

Not out of IPL, Rohit not in Australia squads

Varun surprise pick in T20 squad, Pant only for Test series

VENKATA KRISHNA B @Chennai

ROHIT Sharma will not fly to Australia as the selectors left him out of all three India squads because of injury. After injuring his hamstring last week, Rohit has missed two ties for Mumbai Indians and indications are he would be available for the play-offs as he continues to be monitored by physio Nitin Patel, who is also in charge of the national side.

However, the decision to leave him out of the Australian tour — which starts after a month — even before his franchise has ruled him out of the IPL campaign raises eyebrows, as all centrally contracted injured players are supposed to undergo rehabilitation at the National Cricket Academy (NCA). Interestingly, Rohit batted at the Mumbai Indians nets on Monday. It is understood that he will need BCCI's clearance if Mumbai are to field him in the IPL.

Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav, Navdeep Saini are the pacers for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy alongside Mohammed Siraj, who got a maiden call-up to the Test side. KL Rahul has also returned to the Test squad.

The biggest surprises came in the limited-over formats, where Varun Chakravarthy received a first call-up. Mayank Agarwal finds a place in all three squads. The selection panel led by Sunil Joshi did not name Rishabh Pant in the limited-over squads.

Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Ishan Porel, T Natajan and Kartik Tyagi will travel to Australia as net bowlers.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

T20I SQUAD: Virat Kohli (Captain), Shikhar Dhawan, Mayank Agarwal, KL Rahul (vice-captain and wicket-keeper), Shreyas Iyer, Manish Pandey, Hardik Pandya, Sanju Samson (wicket-keeper), Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, Yuzvendra Chahal, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohd. Shami, Navdeep Saini, Deepak Chahar, Varun Chakravarthy

ODI SQUAD: Virat Kohli (Captain), Shikhar Dhawan, Shubman Gill, KL Rahul (vice-captain & wicket-keeper), Shreyas Iyer, Manish Pandey, Hardik Pandya, Mayank Agarwal, Ravindra Jadeja, Yuzvendra Chahal, Kuldeep Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohd. Shami, Navdeep Saini, Shardul Thakur

TEST SQUAD: Virat Kohli (Captain), Mayank Agarwal, Prithvi Shaw, KL Rahul, Cheteshwar Pujara, Ajinkya Rahane (vice-captain), Hanuma Vihari, Shubman Gill, Wriddhiman Saha (wicket-keeper), Rishabh Pant (wicket-keeper), Jasprit Bumrah, Mohd. Shami, Umesh Yadav, Navdeep Saini, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja, R. Ashwin, Mohd. Siraj

India's throw-down specialist tests positive

ATREYO MUKHOPADHYAY @Chennai

THE Indian men's team's throw-down specialist has tested positive for Covid-19. He did not travel with the rest of the support staff, who reached the UAE on Sunday with the Test specialists. The team will travel to Australia after the IPL final on November 10. It's not clear at the moment if the person concerned will join them after recovering.

This throw-down specialist has been with the Indian team for many years. His job is to hurl balls at batsmen during nets, a practice which became a feature of the Indian team's practice sessions when Gary Kirsten was chief coach from 2008-11. That this person travels with the team and is seen in every nets session suggests his services are considered to be vital.

As per protocol, he is not allowed to travel. It's early to say if he would join the squad after he recovers and returns a negative test. Even if he is Covid free, there is little chance of him travelling to the UAE before the IPL final. Depending on his condition, the BCCI might think of sending him to Australia, where the limited-over series starts on November 27. The team has another throw-down specialist, a left-armer from Sri Lanka.

This person is the only member of the Indian men's contingent to have tested positive for the virus. Before him, a women's team trainer had returned a positive test. It happened when she was in isolation in Mumbai with the rest of the party for the women's T20s in the UAE. Subsequently, she had to be withdrawn from the contingent.

Rising cases see paddlers change plans

AYANTAN CHOWDHURY @New Delhi

EUROPE is currently experiencing a second wave of Covid-19 infections. And two Indian paddlers — G Sathiyan and Harmeet Desai — who are currently there have made alterations to their previous plans in order to keep themselves safe.

Both had signed contracts with various European leagues, Sathiyan representing Polish Superliga club Sokolow SA Jaroslaw while Harmeet went to Lyon in France to play for LNTT. However, both countries are in the midst of reporting record number of cases.

Sathiyan had plans of training with the Polish national team after his stint in the league. With the president of the country testing positive, Poland is currently in the red zone.

Thankfully for the World No 32, his visa papers for his Japan league stint arrived right in the nick of time and he will now return to India this week. "It was getting scary here with talks of a lockdown intensifying. I plan to take a RT-PCR test and if the test result is negative, I will fly back as soon as possible. I can quarantine in Chennai before applying for the Japan visa from home," he said from Poland. The 27-year-old has signed up to play in the Japanese T-League for Okayama Rivets.

Harmeet managed to play a couple of matches before his third game got postponed after a player of the opposition team tested positive. Harmeet has now travelled to Germany to train there at his club TTF Ochsenhausen.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Mystery spinner's comeback story

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @Chennai

EVER wondered what goes through a bowler's mind in the IPL when he doesn't have a good time? Or what he does to stay focussed and fight back when the world starts doubting his abilities? Varun Chakravarthy of Kolkata Knight Riders has a few answers. In his brief IPL career so far, the spinner has been through ups and downs.

A qualified architect from Tamil Nadu, Varun stands out for his calm demeanour, ability to read batsmen and situations, other than deliveries which keep batsmen guessing. It has not happened automatically. He had to make a conscious effort to master these. Self-analysing was part of that process.

"When I find something wrong with my bowling, I watch videos and study them. I don't panic and rush to a coach. Self analysis has helped me understand my bowling better. I must say the time I spent at the KKR academy before the IPL helped me stay in good shape physically and mentally. I had time to work on my game too," Varun told Express from the UAE.

The mystery spinner was down with injuries after drawing attention with his assortment of carrom balls and wrong ones in the domestic circuit in the 2018-19 season. It was a tough time. His first season in the IPL didn't go well either, as he played just one match for Kings XI Punjab with figures of 3-0-35-1.

"I went through a lot in the last few years. Had a poor start to the IPL, nursed injuries. But I never gave up. I had belief that I would do well and it was only a matter of time. During that phase, family, friends, my fiancée, coaches and trainers supported me. That kept me going," said Varun, adding that the Kolkata set-up helped him stay calm. "Talking to Dinesh Karthik and Abhishek Nayar (KKR assistant coach) helped. They kept giving me confidence and told me that I have the potential to do well at this level. Their inputs kept me calm."

It paid off in the match against Delhi Capitals, when Varun registered the first five-wicket haul of IPL 2020. "Pleased with it. Never expected to get five wickets. This is a surreal moment because I didn't get wickets in the last few games. I worked hard for this tournament, practised for long hours. Five wickets in any format is good. But in T20, it is very special. I just followed the process and things fell in place," said the 29-year-old.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

KXIP in fourth spot with fifth straight win

SHARJAH: Kings XI Punjab defeated Kolkata Knight Riders by eight wickets to post their fifth win in a row as they moved into fourth spot and boosted chances of qualifying for the play-offs. They had one win from the first seven matches and since then, have staged a major turnaround. Mandeep Singh and Chris Gayle starred in their win on Monday. Chasing 150 to win, the duo put on a 100-run stand for the second wicket as Kolkata were made to rue their batting collapse. Asked to bat first, only Shubman Gill and Eoin Morgan made useful contributions as KOlkata managed only 149/9.

Chris Gayle

Brief scores: KKR 149/9 (Gill 57, Shami 3/25) lost to KXIP 150/2 in 18.5 ovs (Mandeep 66 n.o, Gayle 51).

DUBAI @ 7.30 PM | **SUNRISERS HYDERABAD VS DELHI CAPITALS**

Dhawan vs Rashid

Sunrisers Hyderabad vs Delhi Capitals is a story of one team needing a win to stay alive and another trying to ensure a place in the top two. Talking points...

DC OUT TO STOP ROT

Three defeats in the last five matches and Delhi are looking different from the side that was tipped to top the league table not long ago. Soft spots in the batting order have surfaced and fifth bowler is proving to be a weak link. Dhawan and Rabada are firing still. They need support from the rest to ensure what started well ends well.

MUST-WIN FOR SRH

Four defeats in the last five games have pushed them to the brink. Another on Tuesday will see them out of the race for last-four berths. With a batting order reliant too much on the top three and a bowling unit missing an out an out quick, they have problems to address. If it doesn't happen now, this campaign will be over.

IPL TABLE

Team	M	W	L	Pts	NRR
MI	11	7	4	14	1.252
DC	11	7	4	14	0.434
RCB	11	7	4	14	0.092
KXIP	12	6	6	12	-0.049
KKR	12	6	6	12	-0.479
RR	12	5	7	10	-0.505
SRH	11	4	7	8	0.029
CSK	12	4	8	8	-0.602

ORANGE CAP: KL RAHUL, 595 RUNS

PURPLE CAP: RABADA, 23 WKTS

SIX-O-METER: 581

FAIRPLAY: MI

Updated till KXIP vs KKR match | For news, views and more log on to newindianexpress.com/sports/ipl

Soccer updates

Leicester go 4th with Arsenal win

LONDON: Brendan Rodgers saluted "world-class" Jamie Vardy after he sealed Leicester's late 1-0 win as spluttering Arsenal crashed to a third defeat in their last four Premier League games on Sunday. Vardy was only fit enough for the bench after a calf injury, but Foxes manager Rodgers sent the striker on with 30 minutes left. Vardy responded with his sixth goal of the season. The 33-year-old has made a habit of tormenting Arsenal and has now scored 11 goals in 12 Premier League games.

Real look to build on Clasico gain

PARIS: In the second round of Champions League, Bayern Munich will look to continue their winning run. Manchester City will hope to find their groove, while Real Madrid will be determined to bounce back after a shock defeat. Real's 2-3 loss against Shakhtar was the biggest upset in the opening round. Having recorded a morale-boosting win over Barcelona in La Liga, Zinedine Zidane's boys, who sit bottom of Group B, will be keen to open their account. In another contest, Bayern are the team to watch against Lokomotiv Moscow. The holders showed they mean business in their 4-0 thrashing of Atletico Madrid in the opening round.

CL FIXTURES (1:30 AM UNLESS STATED)

Lokomotiv Moscow vs Bayern (11:25 pm), Shakhtar Donetsk vs Inter (11:25 pm), Marseille vs Man City, Liverpool vs FC Midjylland, Monchengladbach vs Real Madrid, Atletico vs RB Salzburg, Porto vs Olympiacos, Atalanta vs Ajax.

CORRIGENDUM

This is to inform the general public, that we have released a Public Notice dated 24th Oct. 2020, in that PUBLIC NOTICE we have mentioned Sy. No.82, **Measuring 02-0 (A-G).** instead of **Measuring 02-9 (A-G).** situated at Thippapura village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk

V. Keshavarao Mohite, Advocate
No.35,"Rukmoba"
Behind Bhupathi Tennis Village,
Virupakshapura, Bengaluru-97..
M-9844469408.
Place: Bangalore Date: 27th October 2020

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sree Maanasa Swamy Measala, D/o.Muniswamy Measala, aged about 28 years, residing at Flat No.101, Saideep habitat, No.22, Second Main Road, New Thippassandra, Bangalore-560075. I have changed my name from '**SREE MAANASA SWAMY MEASALA**' to '**MAANASA SWAMY MEASALA**'. Vide affidavit dated 05.10.2020. Sworn before Advocate & Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed.

CHANGE OF NAME

We Vinod Kumar B and Padmavathi K.M Residing at no. 779, 9th B Main Road, 5th Cross, RPC Layout (Hampi Nagar) Vijayanagar 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 040 have changed my minor daughter's name from **DEVEESHREE V.P** to **DEVISHRI VINOD KUMAR ACHAR** vide affidavit dated 14.10.2020 sworn before notary D.S Sathyanarayana, Bangalore.

PUBLIC NOTICE

1) **R.Sukanya, W/o Late R.J.Nagendra, 2)Divya Shree, 3)R.N.Vivek, No.2 & 3 are** Daughter & son of **Late R.J.Nagendra, No.235, 73rd Cross, 1st stage, Kumaraswamy Layout,** Bengaluru-78, represents that they are **the absolute owners** of property **No.235**, situated **73rd Cross, 1st stage, near police station, Kumaraswamy Layout,** Bengaluru-78, measuring East to West:5.00 meters and North to South: 8.50 meters, totally measuring 42.50 sq. Meters and bounded on East: Property No.234, West: Property No.236, North: Road, and South: drain, have agreed to sell the above said property. My clients are intending to purchase the said property, if any person has any objections for the sale of the above said property or such other claim over it, the same may be lodged in writing with supporting documents at the following address within FIFTEEN DAYS from the date of publication of this Notice. If there is no objections or claims, etc. received within the time stipulated above, it would deem that there are no objections for the sale of the same and purchasing said property by my clients is free from all encumbrances.

Address:
P. Reddy Nagendra Kumar, Advocate, No.1/4, 1st Floor, Appu Rao Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-18.

QuoteExpress
PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES
ROBERT H SCHULLER

MANGALURU CITY CORPORATION

MCC/Kadri Zone-3/CR107/2020-21/H1
Date: 23.10.2020

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

As per the court directions in W.P. 9367/2020 on 23-10-2020, any person, organization or any other party affected in any way by the landslide in Pachanady and Kudupu villages during August 2019 and thereafter may submit their claims before Commissioner, Mangaluru City Corporation on 03-11-2020 at 3:00pm onwards. The same will further be processed by the City Corporation and a suitable order shall be passed. Any person requires assistance in filing their claims shall contact Member Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Mangaluru for assistance phone No: 9480024188.

Sd/-
Commissioner
Mangaluru City Corporation

The Regional Head, Regional Office Bengaluru #10-A, 'Chandrakiran' Kasturba Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 Karnataka

TENDER NOTICE

Union Bank of India, Regional Office, Bengaluru South & North invites sealed offers from established vendors for following services to all branches/Offices/ATMs in Bengaluru South and North regions:-
1. Supply & Maintenance of CCTV/DVR systems.
2. Supply & Maintenance of Electronic Alarm Systems
3. Supply & Maintenance of Fire Alarm Systems with Auto-Dialers.
4. Supply & Maintenance of Portable Fire Extinguishers.
5. Providing Security Services to Branches/ATMs

Please visit our website **www.unionbankofindia.com** or Government portal **www. eprocure.gov.in** for downloading of RFP document. The last date of receipt of response is **17/11/2020 up to 11AM. Note: Ensure to submit separate RFP to Bengaluru South and Bengaluru North Regions.**
For any queries, please contact: 8277887788 / 8601940090

Sd/- The Regional Head
Union Bank of India
Date: 27.10.2020, Place: Bengaluru

University Grants Commission (Ministry of Education, Government of India) Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi - 110 002

Public Notice on Fake University

The University Grants Commission Act, 1956 under Section 22(1) provides that a degree can be awarded only by a University established under a Central, State / Provincial Act or an Institution deemed to be university under Section 3 of the UGC Act or an Institution especially empowered by an Act of Parliament to confer the degree.

Further, Section 23 of the UGC Act prohibits the use of the word 'University' by any institution other than a university established as stated above. Students and Public at large are hereby informed that persently) 24 self-styled, unrecognized institutions are functioning in contravention of the UGC Act, have been declared as fake universities and these are not empowered to confer any degree. The list of fake universities is at UOC website www.ugc.ac.in.

DAVP 21205/11/0015/2021

NLC India Limited
'Navratna' - Government of India Enterprise
Regd. Office : 'Neyveli House' No.135, Periyar E.V.R. High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai - 600 010
CORPORATE OFFICE : BLOCK-1, NEYVELI - 607 801. Tamilnadu
CIN No.: L93090TN1956GOI003507, Website: www.nlcindia.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR WORKS

Sl.No.	Tender Ref./Description of Works
1.	**UNIT:MINE II: MII/NASH/SMD/EXP - PTE/C055/20-21** :Canal-Short Term-Excavation and Transportation of Slided OB Dump of Mine-II from the Agricultural Lands. **EMD:**₹8,91,000/-
2.	**MII/NA/SME/PTE/C056/20-21** : SME - Non AMC - Non Short Term - Certain Major Miscellaneous works in SME - overhaul - Mine-II during 2020-21. **EMD:**₹ 2,69,000/-
3.	**UNIT:MINE I:MINES/NASH/SMD/EXP - PTE/D022/20-21:**Non AMC-Short Term-Hiring of seven numbers Backhoes for four months for various works in Mine-I, Mine-IA & Mine-II. **EMD:**₹ 2,03,000/-
4.	**MI/NASH/SMD/PTE/B040/20-21** : Hi-Tech Cultivation - Cultivation of vegetables including mulching in dumping area of Mine-I (15Ha) - Phase-III. **EMD:**₹ 2,11,000/-

Cost of Tender Document: Sl.No:1 to 4:₹ 2,000/- (each)

Sl. No	Last Date for Sale	Last Date for Receipt	Date & Time of Opening
1.	27-10-2020 Upto 15.00 Hrs.	28-10-2020 Upto 15.00 Hrs.	28-10-2020 At 15.30 Hrs.
2.	16-11-2020 Upto 15.00 Hrs.	17-11-2020 Upto 15.00 Hrs.	17-11-2020 At 15.30 Hrs.
3.	04-11-2020 Upto 15.00 Hrs.	05-11-2020 Upto 15.00 Hrs.	05-11-2020 At 15.30 Hrs.
4.	17-11-2020 Upto 15.00 Hrs.	18-11-2020 Upto 15.00 Hrs.	18-11-2020 At 15.30 Hrs.

NOTE: With effect from **01.11.2020** all Tender Notices / Auction Notices of NLC India Limited, would be hosted only on our website (**www.nlcindia.com**) and Central Public Procurement Portal (CPPP)- **www.eprocure.gov.in**
FOR FURTHER DETAILS/CORRIGENDUM VISIT:www.nlcindia.com
PUBLIC SECTOR IS YOURS: HELP IT TO HELP YOU

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Mode Only)
No: 908/BGK/SEE/AEE(C)/Tr.(W&M)C/2/3508-21 Date: 22.10.2020

KPTCL invites Tender from eligible Class-3 and above KPWD registered contractor for Civil Engineering Works coming under the Jurisdiction of Superintending Engineer (Ele)., Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Bagalkot. The detailed notification regarding the works called through Brief Tender Notification will be displayed on the office Notice Board from the office of the undersigned **on or after 5.30 p.m on 22.10.2020.** Other details can be obtained from this office during the office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer(Ele).,
Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Zonal Office Complex,
Opposite Sector No. 45, Navanagara, Bagalkote - 587103.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
Office of The Chief Engineer (Kaveri),
5th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, KG Road, Bangalore - 560009
IFT No:BWSSB/CEKTE/TA-10/30/2020/2524/2020-21 Date :21.10.2020

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER
(only Through Electronic Tendering)

BWSSB invites tenders in two stage system from eligible tenderers for the work of **Comprehensive Operation & Maintenance of 550 MLD Water Treatment plant at T.K. Halli under Cauvery Water Supply Scheme, Stage-IV, Phase-II for Three years.**
Amount Put to Tender: Rs. 2012.17 Lakhs
EMD Amount : Rs. 30.20 Lakhs
The Last Date and Time for submission of tender document is on **11.12.2020 upto 3.00 pm.** Opening of technical tender is on **14.12.2020 at 4:00 PM.** The details regarding participation in the e-procurement can be obtained by logging on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact undersigned office during working hours

Sd/-
Chief Engineer (Kaveri)
DIPR/DDU/Zen/RO-1453/2020-21

Avoid Plastics Save Rain Water Create Rain Water Harvesting Structure
TIRUCHIRAPPALLI CITY CORPORATION
Tender Notice No : 126 / 2020-2021
Roc.No.E1/7432/2020(Main) **TENDER NOTIFICATION EXTENSION NOTICE** Dt.24.10.2020

Receipt and submission of tenders as per Tender Notice No. 126/2020-2021 is postponed due to administrative reason as detailed below.

Details	Date already notified	Date postponed
Last date for download of Bid documents	27.10.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours.	17.11.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours.
Submission of bids through e-submission	28.10.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours.	18.11.2020 Upto 15.00 Hours.
Tender Opening Date and Time	28.10.2020 Upto 16.00 Hours.	18.11.2020 Upto 16.00 Hours.

Other terms and Conditions remain unchanged.
DIPR/4003/TENDER/2020
Commissioner,
Tiruchirappalli City Corporation.

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LTD
(A Government of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Chief Engineer, Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., invites Open Tender in Single Packet System through E-Tendering on IREPS portal from eligible contractors for the following work. **Name of Work:** Metallizing and Protective painting to Bottom Chord, Middle Chord and Top Chord members of Steel Girder spans of Zuari Bridge under SEN/MAO section of KRCL in Goa state. **Tender Notice No.:** KR/W/09/2020/07. **Estimated Cost of the Work :** Rs. 100.92 Lakh (Exclusive of GST). **Completion Period :** Eleven (11) Months including monsoon. **Closing Date/Time :** 12.11.2020 up to 15:00 hrs for submission of online Offers/Bids. Manual offers shall not be accepted. Please visit **www.ireps.gov.in** website for details/ participation. Corrigendum / addendum will be hosted in this website only.

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited
Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala-147001
Corporate Identity No. : U40109PB2010SGC033813, Website : www.pspcl.in

Office of CHIEF ENGINEER / PP&R
D-3, Shakti Vihar, Patiala-147001
Tele Fax : 0175-2200872, e-mail: ce-ppr@pspcl.in
Registration Number : 33813

PRESS NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR SHORT TERM PURCHASE OF ENERGY TENDER SPECIFICATION NO. PPR-09/2020

PSPCL invites tender under three part bid system for supply of electrical energy from interstate/intrastate sources viz. Generators, Traders having valid Inter State Trading License issued by CERC for interstate trading of energy, intrastate trading license issued by PSERC for intrastate trading of energy, State Electricity Boards, State Electricity Utilities, States, IPPs & CPPs as per table given below:

Period	Duration (Hrs)	Quantum in MW at NR Periphery
6th November 2020 to 15th November 2020	06:00 to 18:00	500
16th November 2020 to 30th November 2020	06:00 to 18:00	500
1st December 2020 to 15th December 2020	06:00 to 18:00	600
16th December 2020 to 31st December 2020	06:00 to 18:00	700
1st January 2021 to 15th January 2021	06:00 to 18:00	700
16th January 2021 to 31st January 2021	06:00 to 18:00	700
1st February 2021 to 15th February 2021	06:00 to 18:00	700
16th February 2021 to 28th February 2021	06:00 to 18:00	500

Sr.No.	Event	Date
1.	Date of Publication / Uploading of Tender Enquiry	24.10.2020
2.	Date of receipt of EMD in the office of Dy.CE/PR, T-1, Thermal Design Complex, PSPCL, Patiala	30.10.2020 upto 12:00 Hrs
3.	Last date of Submission of Bid	30.10.2020 upto 13:00 Hrs

Bidding will be done as per the revised guidelines for short term procurement of power notified by the Ministry of Power vide resolution dated 30.03.2016 , through e-bidding portal (DEEP) only. The link for the e-Bidding portal is **www.mstcecommerce.com** and is also available on the website of Ministry of Power (**www.powermin.nic.in**) and PFC Consultancy Limited (**www.pfcindia.com**). Bidders are requested to familiarize with the applicable guidelines notified by the Ministry of Power on 30.03.2016 carefully before submitting the offer.

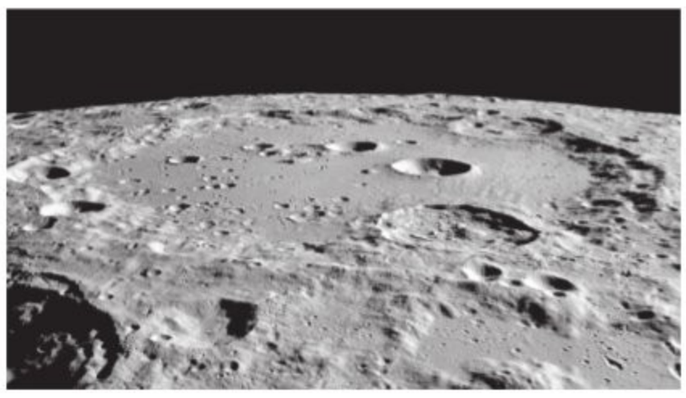
Note:- It is informed that in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in newspaper. Detailed specification and corrigendum (if any) may be downloaded / seen on **www.mstcecommerce.com** and official website of PSPCL .i.e. **www.pspcl.in**

431/C-332/2020/26.10.2020
DPR/I/95070/2020
Dy.CE/PR
PSPCL, Patiala

Moon's water capacity is more than thought

Two new studies suggest the presence of molecular water in sunlit areas and stored ice in permanently shadowed lunar polar regions

SPACE



CAPE CANAVERAL: The Moon's shadowed, frigid nooks and crannies may hold frozen water in more places and in larger quantities than previously suspected, good news for astronauts at future lunar bases who could tap into these resources for drinking and making rocket fuel, scientists reported on Monday.

While previous observations have indicated millions of tons of ice in the permanently shadowed craters of the Moon's poles, a pair of studies in the journal *Nature Astronomy* take the availability of lunar surface water to a new level.

More than 40,000 square kilometres of lunar terrain have the capability to trap water in the form of ice, according to a team led by the University of Colorado's Paul Hayne. That's 20 per cent more area than previous estimates, he said.

These ice-rich areas are near the Moon's north and south poles. Temperatures are so low in these so-called cold traps — minus 163 degrees Celsius — that they could hold onto the water for millions or even billions of years.

"We believe this will help expand the possible landing sites for future lunar missions seeking water, opening up real estate previously considered 'off limits' for being bone dry," Hayne said in an email to *The Associated Press*.

Using data from NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter, the researchers identified cold traps as small as a few metres across and as wide as 30 kilometres and more, and used computer models to get all the way down to micrometres in size.

"Since the little ones are too small to see from orbit, despite being vastly more numerous, we can't yet identify ice inside them," Hayne said. "Once we're on the surface, we will do that experiment."

For a second study, scientists used NASA's airborne infrared observatory Sofia to conclusively identify water molecules on the sunlit portions of the Moon, just outside the polar regions. Most of these molecules are likely stored in the voids between moon dust and other particles or locked inside glassy volcanic material.

Scientists believe all this water on the moon came from comets, asteroids, interplanetary dust, the solar wind or even lunar volcanic eruptions. They'll have a better idea of the sources "if we can get down on the surface and analyse samples of the ice," Hayne said.

The lead researcher, Casey Honniball, a postdoctoral fellow at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, said at a news conference that she wanted to make it clear the Sofia study had not found puddles on the moon. Rather, the identified hydrogen and oxygen molecules are so far apart, they are neither in liquid or solid form, she noted.

NASA is under White House direction to put astronauts back on the Moon by 2024. The agency wants its new Artemis moon-landing programme to be sustainable, unlike the Apollo programme a half-century ago.

Scientists hope that samples from these cold traps could tell us more about how the Moon — and even Earth — got its water, he said, perhaps providing evidence of water delivered by asteroids, comets and the solar wind.

If you were standing on the Moon near one of the poles, you would see a whole 'galaxy' of little shadows speckled across the surface. Each of these tiny shadows — most of them smaller than a coin — would be extremely cold, and most of them cold enough to harbour ice

Paul Hayne, University of Colorado

ARCHAEOLOGY

EXFILE

Filter system of the New World older than Europe's

The ancient Mayans had built sophisticated water filters using natural materials they imported from kilometres away in the once-bustling city of Tikal, Guatemala, according to a new study published in the journal *Scientific Reports*. We take a look

DISCOVERY OF FILTER SYSTEM

Researchers from the University of Cincinnati discovered evidence of a filter system at the Corriental reservoir, an important source of drinking water for the Maya, in present-day Guatemala

They identified crystalline quartz and zeolite that create a natural molecular sieve, both currently used in modern water filtration

The filters would have removed harmful microbes, nitrogen-rich compounds, heavy metals such as mercury and other toxins from the water

WHAT IS ZEOLITE?

It is a non-toxic, porous, crystalline, hydrated aluminosilicate mineral with natural adsorbent and ion exchange properties, which removes harmful microbes as well as dispersed insoluble and soluble toxins from drinking water

HOW THE MAYA GOT POTABLE WATER

Researchers traced the zeolite and quartz to steep ridges around the Bajo de Azucar about 28 km from Tikal

They used X-ray diffraction analysis to identify zeolite and crystalline quartz in the reservoir sediments

This system protected the Maya from harmful cyanobacteria and other toxins that might otherwise have made people who drank from the reservoir sick

2,000 YEARS BEFORE EUROPEANS USED

The Maya created this water filtration system nearly 2,000 years before similar systems were used in Europe. This makes it one of the oldest water treatment systems of its kind in the world

Researchers set up equipment to take sediment samples of ancient reservoirs at Tikal

CRUCIAL WATER

For the ancient Maya, finding ways to collect and store clean water was of critical importance. Tikal and other Maya cities were built atop porous limestone that made ready access to drinking water difficult

10 YEARS AGO

Researchers found a likely source of the quartz and zeolite while conducting fieldwork in Guatemala. They later determined the quartz and zeolite closely matched the minerals found at Tikal

COMPLEX SYSTEMS

The Maya had figured that this material produced pools of clear water and they made efforts to carry it back. This is the first time it has been observed in the ancient New World, said researchers

FIXING THE MISSING LINK

This study has opened the research agenda by way of identifying the quality of a water source and how that might have been established and maintained. However, reconstructing the lives, habits and motivations of a civilisation 1,000 years ago is tricky, said researchers

A lot of people look at Native Americans in the Western Hemisphere as not having the same engineering or technological muscle of places like Greece, Rome, India or China. But when it comes to water management, the Maya were millennia ahead

Kenneth Barnett Tankersley, lead author of the studye

Tourists in front of the 'Gran Jaguar' Mayan temple at the Tikal archaeological site in Peten department, Guatemala

Oxford's vaccine create antibodies in young and elderly

MEDICINE

LONDON: One of the world's leading Covid-19 experimental vaccines, currently being developed by UK's University of Oxford, has show signs of producing an immune response in both young and old adults.

The vaccine also triggers lower adverse responses among the elderly, AstraZeneca said.

The vaccine, ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 and also known as AZD1222, is considered among the most advanced in the worldwide hunt for a viable vaccine against the novel coronavirus.

The vaccine is made by taking a common cold virus (adenovirus) from chimpanzees and deleting about 20 per cent of the virus' instructions.

This means it is impossible for the vaccine to replicate or cause disease in humans, but it can still be produced in the laboratory under special conditions. By removing these genetic instructions there is space to add the instructions for the spike protein from SARS-CoV-2.

The AstraZeneca/Oxford vaccine project is one of the most promising and advanced in the world to combat the global pandemic, which has now claimed the lives of 1.1 million people.

It is one of 10 vaccine candidates being tested on tens of thousands of people in so-called phase 3 trials.

Meanwhile, a major London hospital trust has been told to be ready to receive the first batches of the Covid-19 vaccine being trialled by Oxford and AstraZeneca, by early next month, according to *The Sun*.

The newspaper claims that the country's state-funded National Health Service (NHS) is preparing for an initial rollout of the vaccine from the week "commencing November 2".

Earlier, India's Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) had promised to producing an additional 100 million doses of the vaccine.

In June, AstraZeneca licensed Serum Institute to manufacture a billion doses of a potential Covid-19 vaccine — with 400 million to be delivered this year.

Globalisation ups stress on resources

ENVIRONMENT

LONDON: International trade in a highly interconnected world is putting more pressure on water, energy and land resources than domestic productions, says a new study.

The results, published in *Global Environmental Change*, suggest that globalisation may be decreasing, rather than increasing, the security of global supply chains.

"There has been plenty of research comparing countries in terms of their water, energy and land footprints, but what hasn't been studied is the scale and source of their risks," said Oliver Taherzadeh from University of Cambridge.

Large economies, such as the US, China and Japan, are highly exposed to water shortages outside their borders due to their volume of international trade.

However, many countries in sub-Saharan Africa, such as Kenya, actually face far less risk as they are not as heavily networked in the global economy and are relatively self-sufficient in food production, the findings suggests.

GOOD NEWS

Kendi, a white rhinoceros, along with her baby boy at the Disney's Animal Kingdom, Lake Buena Vista in Florida. The calf, born on Sunday, was the result of a Species Survival Plan overseen by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums to ensure the responsible breeding of endangered species | AP

FACT OF THE MATTER

Leopard count rises in China

WILDLIFE

Among all the big cats, leopards have the largest distribution, occurring widely in Africa as well as the Caucasus and Asia. However, poaching and habitat destruction have led to their decline, globally. But in northern China, the numbers of a leopard subspecies called the North Chinese leopard have increased according to a new study conducted by researchers from the University of Copenhagen and their colleagues in Beijing. The just-completed count reports that the number of leopards increased from 88 in 2016 to 110 in 2017 — a 25 per cent increase. Even though the footage captured more cats than expected on film, none of the researchers saw any of felines with their own eyes.

Images to spot crop diseases

HI-TECH

A combination of imagery from mobile phones, drones and satellites can be used to clamp down on banana threats, shows a new study published in the *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*. The images of varying resolutions are fed into a platform "trained" through machine learning to identify banana crops and analyse threats with 97 per cent overall accuracy. Using a pixel-based classification system, researchers trained the model to detect banana plants on mixed-farm systems. After 'learning' the patterns and algorithms of bananas, researchers then trained the platform to analyse physical symptoms of the six diseases, and the percentage threat.

RECOMMENDATIONS

New American guidelines to address increase in opioid usage during pregnancy

MEDICINE

WASHINGTON: Opioid use in pregnancy has prompted new guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics, aimed at improving care for women and newborns affected by their mothers' drug use.

The number of affected women and infants has increased in recent years, but they often don't get effective treatment, and the pandemic may be worsening that problem, said Dr. Stephen Patrick, lead author of the academy report released on Monday.

"While we have been talking about the opioid crisis for years, pregnant women and their newborns seldom make it to the top of the heap. Infants are receiving variable care and not getting connected to services," said Patrick, a Vanderbilt University paediatrician.

The academy's report says pregnant women should have access to opioid medication to treat opioid misuse. Two opioids, buprenorphine and methadone, are effective treatments, but pregnant women often face stigma in using them and doctors who prescribe them are scarce. The academy says hospitals should have written protocols for assessing and treating opioid-affected newborns. Many don't and practices vary widely.

Breastfeeding and other practices that promote bonding should be encouraged, and parent education and referral to services for affected newborns should be provided, the academy says. Its recommendations echo guidance from other medical groups and the US government.

"This is a substantial public health problem that is still lacking solutions," Patrick said.

While we have been talking about the opioid crisis for years, pregnant women and their newborns seldom make it to the top of the heap. Infants are receiving variable care and not getting connected to services

Dr. Stephen Patrick, lead author of the report

According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 7 per cent of American women reported in 2019 that they had used prescription opioids during pregnancy. One in five of those women reported misusing the drugs while pregnant.

Some infants born to these women develop symptoms of opioid withdrawal, including tremors, fussiness and diarrhea.

By some US estimates, nearly 80 affected infants are diagnosed every day on and the numbers have tripled in recent years.

Patrick has done research suggesting that these infants may be at risk for developmental delays, but says it's possible those findings reflect use of alcohol or other drugs during pregnancy, poor prenatal care or stress.

"Getting into treatment may be getting even harder" because of the pandemic, he said. "There's so much going on in the world that issues involving opioid use are flying under the radar."

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27•10•2020
TUESDAY

DAY'S DIARY

IS loses its leader

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, founder and leader of ISIS, died on this day in 2019 after he blew up his suicide vest following the US raid on his compound

BIG PRIZE

The self-styled "Caliph Ibrahim" had a $25m (£19m) bounty on his head and had been pursued by the US and its allies since the rise of IS five years ago.

JUST IN TIME

His death came as a major victory for US President Donald Trump, who was then facing heavy criticism for pulling US troops out of northern Syria

'WONDERFUL DOG'

After his death, Trump tweeted a picture of the military dog that chased Baghdadi into the tunnel where the latter killed himself. "GREAT JOB" he added

Duniya Vijay to launch Lakshman Gopal

PG 4

FIGHTING FIT

Virtual fitness sessions were at an all-time high during the pandemic, with Bengalureans leading the landscape in the county, shows a recent survey

Illustration: Tapas Ranjan

• **Vidya Iyengar**

Garden city, pub city, and now fitness capital... Bengaluru, according to a recent survey, leads the way when it comes to fitness and health consciousness. A survey by Gympik to assess the impact of Covid-19 on India's fitness behaviour, shows that the city tops the list in the virtual fitness landscape, with 58 per cent Bengalureans surveyed working out at least 3-4 times a week. Mumbai, with 46 per cent, Delhi/NCR, with 42 pre cent, take the second and third spot, respectively.

With more than 50,000 respondents from across geographies, the report tracks key wellness trends such as mental health, emerging fitness solutions, and new industry challenges.

The city's vast population of IT professionals, who work long hours and are prone to health issues, have realised that they need to up their fitness quotient to sustain their line of work. "Because they have travelled to the West a lot on work-related projects, their exposure to Western themes like CrossFit, long-distance running and yoga – which people are lapping up because of the way the it has propagated there – have influenced them to become fitness conscious," says Abinav Shankar Narayan, founder, Namma CrossFit, adding that only those who liked lifting weights are eager to return to gyms as training at home does not allow people to lift and drop heavy weights.

Agrees nutrition advisor Shalini Manglani who feels that people in the "tech city" are more savvy with the virtual medium. According to fitness consultant and personal trainer Bhaskar Prabhu, Bengaluru has fitness enthusiasts who are serious about their workouts. "Many clients have set up a small gym in their houses so as to not skip their usual routine. This way they don't have to worry about the safety issues involved in going to a gym," says Prabhu. With many living with senior family members, and not wanting to take a risk, Prabhu is not surprised that they have easily adapted to the virtual route. "This way they feel they are keeping fit and building immunity without stepping out," he says.

Bengaluru is a hub for fitness seekers and experts, says Amaresh Ojha, founder-CEO, Gympik. "Even before Covid-19, Bengaluru had the highest traction for online gym membership sales via our platform, which clearly shows Bengalureans' inclination towards fitness and wellness," he adds, pointing out that the average resident in the city is more than enthusiastic about trying outnewthings, especially when it involves technology. "It's this attitude which has made Bangalore top the charts in adopting virtual fitness services as well," he says.

> **Because IT professionals have travelled to the West a lot on work-related projects, their exposure to Western themes like CrossFit and long-distance running have influenced them to become fitness conscious**
>
> —**Abinav Shankar Narayan,** founder, Namma CrossFit

IN A NUTSHELL

Bengaluru leads in the virtual fitness landscape with 58%, followed by Mumbai with 46%, Delhi/NCR with 42% surveyed residents working out at least 3-4 times a week

While deciding to return to the gym, 90% of the members are strongly concerned about the sanitisation measures taken at the fitness centre

72% of members said they would feel more comfortable at the gym with additional sanitiser dispensers at the workout area and 85% said regular temperature checks and contactless payments

Once Covid-19 is contained, 56% of fitness consumers are expected to continue spending on digital fitness

90% of fitness enthusiasts have tried live-streaming fitness classes at least thrice during the lockdown as compared to just 26% in 2019.

Demand for virtual classes for yoga (92%) and High Intensity Interval Training cardio workout (HIIT) routines like zumba (77%), aerobics (60%) and pilates (25%) was at peak

CITY READ

New silk store in town

Nilima Silks has launched its new store at Commercial Street. The store has a wide collection, including Tussar, Eri and Muga silk products, among others. The brand works at creating a self-sustaining model predominantly for tribal silkworm rearers, rural women, yarn makers and handloom weaves of Jharkhand and Bihar, in an attempt to preserve the heritage handloom and revive traditional crafts. On display are women's sarees, stoles, kurtis, blouses and lehengas, menswear like kurtas, shirts, Eri silk socks, ties and so on. Silks from Mysuru and Banaras are also available.

Conference on mental health

Creative Movement Therapy Association of India (CMTAI) is coming up with its two-day virtual 7th annual international conference starting on Dec. 5. For the conference, they are bringing together movement and other creative arts therapists/ practitioners from across the world to talk about mental well-being during the pandemic and post-pandemic era. Discussions will also be held on multicultural artistic approaches to address psychological fallouts like anxiety and depression. For more details visit CMTAI website.

This online festival features 36 classical music and dance performances, shot in empty auditoriums and film studios in five cities, to raise funds for artistes affected by the pandemic

CHART TOPPERS

The festival also includes a contest called the SSF Championship, which will be held in 14 categories of Indian classical music and dance. The top three performances in each category will be broadcast on the festival's social media platforms from Dec. 1 - Feb. 28. The winners will also be given performance opportunities in the upcoming seasons of SSF. "This pandemic has been demotivating for young artistes. But all of them can stay at home and work on their training through this," says Indrayuddh. To register, check the website.

Stars from the city

Rukmini Vijayakumar: Nov. 29

Mysore Manjunath: Jan. 24

Mysore Nagraj (with his brother Mysore Manjunath) : Jan. 24

Pravin Godkhindi : Nov. 1

Jayanthi Kumaresh (jugalbandi with Pravin Godkhindi) : Nov. 1

Indrayuddh Majumder

Dr Jayanthi Kumaresh

Sunday symphonies

• **Simran Ahuja**

If it weren't for the pandemic, the Swara Samrat Festival would have gone ahead with its ninth edition as usual: An in-person four-day festival held in an auditorium in Kolkata. But this year, instead of doing away with the concept altogether, the organisers have chosen to expand their reach by opting for an online festival to celebrate Indian classical music and dance. They have worked with an audio and visual team who shot 36 performances in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Pune and Kolkata. In October, they shot for four days in Kolkata and one day each in Delhi and Bengaluru. They will shoot for one day each in Mumbai and Pune in November. These will be streamed on their website, swarasamratfestival.com.

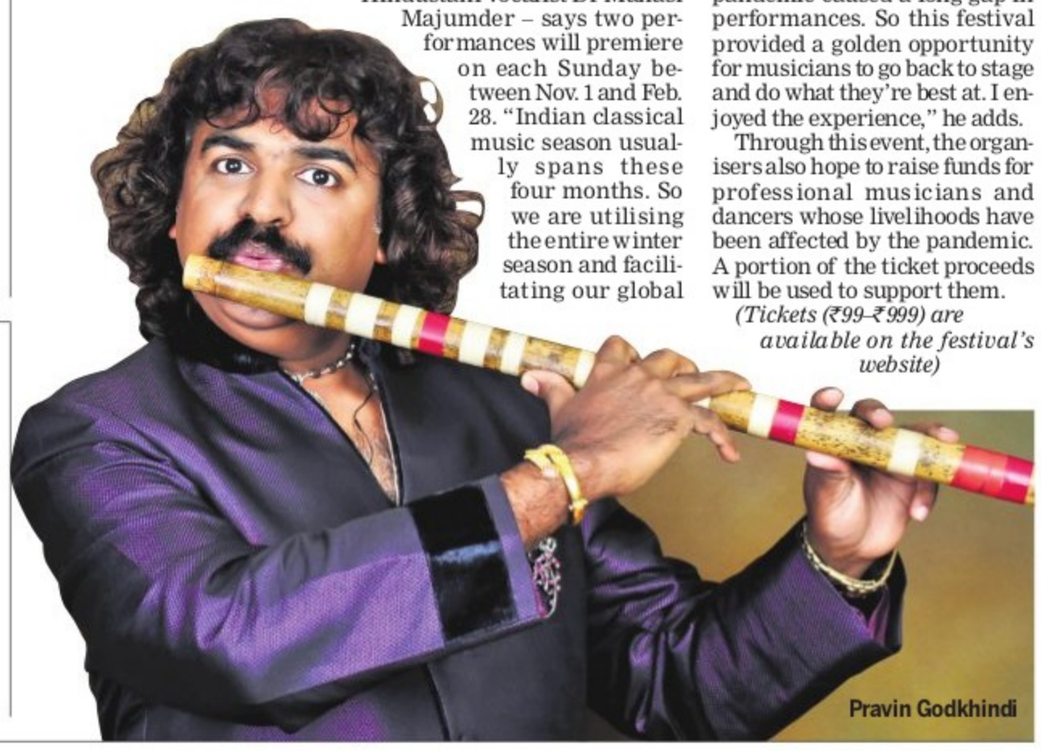
Usually held over four days, the festival will go on for four months this time. Sarod player Indrayuddh Majumder, who has organised it with his parents – Sarod maestro Pt. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar and Hindustani vocalist Dr Manasi Majumder – says two performances will premiere on each Sunday between Nov. 1 and Feb. 28. "Indian classical music season usually spans these four months. So we are utilising the entire winter season and facilitating our global audience to witness the best of Indian classical music and dance from the comfort of their homes," says Indrayuddh. The 36 performances will feature musicians such as Kaushiki Chakraborty, Bickram Ghosh, Kushal Das, Ulhas Kashalkar, N Rajam, Rajendra Gangani, Mysore Manjunath and Mysore Nagaraj, Pravin Godkhindi, Jayanthi Kumaresh and Rukmini Vijayakumar.

Kumaresh and Godkhindi, who are both city-based musicians, shot their jugalbandi performance for the festival in an empty Chowdiah Memorial Hall. Kumaresh, a veena musician, says, "This is a time when artistes who perform live on stage are confined to their homes, music students aren't able to go to gurus' homes to learn lessons, and people are worried about tomorrow. We need something like this to uplift us, to carry our tradition and music forward, and to spread positivity."

Bansuri artiste Godkhindi calls the concept of taking a digital route to continue the festival a commendable effort. "The pandemic caused a long gap in performances. So this festival provided a golden opportunity for musicians to go back to stage and do what they're best at. I enjoyed the experience," he adds.

Through this event, the organisers also hope to raise funds for professional musicians and dancers whose livelihoods have been affected by the pandemic. A portion of the ticket proceeds will be used to support them.

(Tickets (₹99–₹999) are available on the festival's website)



Pravin Godkhindi

Having to pivot from in-person mode to a digital-only model, the India Inclusion Summit will see the likes of chess player Viswanathan Anand and Wipro chairman Rishad Premji sharing their inspirational stories

A 'SPECIAL' MOVEMENT

• **Vidya Iyengar**

A special month, November is marked by excitement for the differently-abled, who look forward to meetings, meaningful exchanges and mentorship at the India Inclusion Summit (IIS) in Bengaluru. For the last several years, technologist **Ferose VR** has been creating awareness on the need for inclusion in the mainstream society. A parent to a special child, Ferose's parenting journey has been one of extreme emotions. It is that initial despair that led to the creation of an inclusive movement through the IIS, which has given hope, to him and many others.

The month-long celebration of inclusion held between November 7 and 28, will see the likes of renowned chess player Viswanathan Anand, Wipro chairman Rishad Premji and para-badminton athlete Manasi Joshi sharing their thoughts. "People with disabilities are disproportionately affected by the pandemic. Most with intellectual and developmental disabilities require in-person care or critical therapeutic support in their living environments. Many have temporarily lost access to those services during the pandemic. Also, social distancing and other measures to fight the pandemic have had a more severe impact on people with disabilities who vitally require physical contact with caregivers and loved ones. While virtual interaction, when accessible, and telehealth have many potential advantages, many who cannot verbalise or adequately communicate pain, discomfort or symptoms to providers find it harder. For many, there is no substitute for in-person service," says Ferose.

Having to pivot from an "in-person first and digital second" to a "digital-only" model was hard on everyone, he adds. "For the last eight years, we've looked forward to meeting our friends during IIS. The high point was experiencing the event in person. But we started preparing for a virtual IIS as far back as April and that gave us a head-start. We rebuilt our online presence, launched our Augmented Reality-enabled mascot, Inclu, and got eight international speakers (many more than we could have ever afforded to fly down!). We have also managed with a much smaller budget – so while there can be no substitute for an in-person event, we still can contribute virtually in a meaningful manner," he says.

For the last three years, they have wanted to launch something aimed at the youth, knowing that for mindset change to happen, they needed to focus on a younger age group. Which is why this year they are launching a new initiative 'IIS for Youth' focusing on the age group of 10-14 years, and have signed up with over 500 schools across the country to participate in the youth event on November 21.

In these times of virtual communication fatigue, the biggest challenge they find is drawing attention of the participants in a online format. "There is an explosion of digital content, and cognitive overload causes a feeling of fatigue. Even if people register for IIS, there is no guarantee they will attend. We have to now curate for attention, not just for content," he says, adding that he believes the summit will eventually live in a hybrid world where in-person and virtual worlds will blend. "We will develop new ways to make the transition between the two worlds seamless. While the pandemic has accelerated the move to digital, the need for human connection will always remain," he says.

For details, visit indiainclusionsummit.com

EXPRESS POETRY CONTEST 2020

Bengaluru City Express and HarperCollins present 'Express Poetry Contest 2020'. The competition is open to people of all ages and the poem should be under 40 lines. An eminent panel of judges, including former DGP and poet Jija Harisingh will adjudge. Top three winners get to take home Google Mini (sponsored by Kara4Kids), JBL portable Bluetooth speaker (sponsored by Canadian International School), and complimentary one-year subscription to TNIE, respectively, besides a certificate of recognition. In addition, each winner will be presented a book by HarperCollins. The winning submissions will also be published in The New Indian Express.

CONDITIONS APPLY

Email your entries to bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com, with the subject line: Poetry competition.

- Last date for submission is Nov. 3
- Entry open to Bengaluru residents only.
- Works should be original, unpublished, and restricted to one entry per person.
- Include your name, address and contact number

Results to be announced on Nov. 12

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

MUSICAL NIGHT

Singer Raghu Dixit, known for taking Kannada songs to the global audience, will be making his fans groove to some of his best collection of songs in an online live event. **When:** Nov 8, 7:30pm onwards. For more details, visit Bookmyshow

READING TOGETHER

In the fourth edition of the Travelling Title series, InKoCentre introduces *Gobble You Up*, a stunning children's book, published by Daekyo in Korean in 2013. The virtual storytelling and activity-based interaction **will be held on** October 28 at 5pm on https://www.youtube.com/ TaraBooks

FESTIVE GLOW

Skincare brand Aureana has launched its Luminos range that promises glowing and healthier skin. The range is made with the essence of natural Alpha Hydroxy Acids , aloe vera juice and nano white technology to reduce dark spots and melanin synthesis. **Available at:** www.aureabeauty.com/aureana

THE ROYAL FEEL

Bindani's Fall Winter 2020 Collection, Rani Sa, commemorates an era of comfort and elegance. Millennial brides regale in the sassy, free willing luxury of the awe-inspiring colours and extraordinary silhouette. Rani Sa is an ode to royal quintessence that will overwhelm you. **Available on:** www.instagram.com/bindaniofficial

BOOK LOVERS CAN CHECK THIS ONLINE MEETUP WHERE THE DISCUSSION WILL BE ON HISTORY AND CHRONICLES. WHEN: NOV. 8, 4-6PM WHERE: CHECK DIALOGUES. SPACE FOR DETAILS

Sunday funday

This deli in Indiranagar is back with their Sunday Brunch specials, spread over three different sections for added safety. The menu includes gourmet sandwiches, artisanal bakes and desserts. **Where:** Lazy Suzy, Indiranagar **When:** Sundays

A snug fit for festive season

SuperBottoms presents its latest collection of cloth diapers for babies for the festive season. Why should babies and toddlers be left behind when it comes to festivals? Keeping this mind, Superbottoms has introduced cloth diapers for little ones in vibrant-coloured Warli and Paisley prints. Made from 100% cloth and organic cotton for absorbency, they are reusable and provide the performance of a disposable diaper in the comfort and safety of cloth. **Available at:** superbottoms.com

Celebrating women

Adding to the festive fervour, Mia by Tanishq has launched its exclusive and ethno- contemporary collection, Lyana to celebrate the light within you. Get upto 20% off on Mia's Lyana collection. The offer is valid across all Mia stores till November 16. Mia's Diwali offering is for the modern Indian women who is rooted in traditional values and believes in celebrating the festivals her own way. **For details, visit:** www.miabytanishq.com

Lucky draw

With the festivities right around the corner, get ready to spoil yourself at Phoenix Festival Season 4. People shopping above ₹50,000 can get a chance to win prizes worth ₹50 lakh and assured gifts like gold coins, mobile phones, Swarovski products, TV, and refrigerator among others **Where:** Phoenix Marketcity **When:** Until Dec. 31

Coffee gift packs

This festive season, surprise the coffee lovers in your life with a gift pack by Rage Coffee that includes four flavours – Irish Hazelnut, Dark Chocolate, Creme Caramel & Sparky Orange and Rage Coffee Original Flavour Shot. Priced at `1,299. **For details, visit:** ragecoffee.com

Plant-powered!

Reebok has launched a trailblazing innovation in sustainable footwear – a plant-based shoe. The Forever Floatride GROW is a version of Reebok's award-winning Forever Floatride Energy 2. Each component was meticulously researched and tested in order to identify the most sustainable natural ingredients that would meet the high-performance standards required for a best-in-class running shoe. Priced at: `12,999. **Available at:** shop4reebok.com

QUICK FIX

What's cooking

IN YOUR KITCHEN?
We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

CHICKEN LOLLIPOP

INGREDIENTS

- **Lollipops:** 6 ■ **Salt:** 1 tsp
- **Pepper:** 1 tsp
- **Lemon juice:** 1 tbsp
- **Red chilli flakes:** 1/2 tsp
- **Soya sauce:** 2 tsp
- **Ginger-garlic paste:** 1 tbsp
- **Red chilli paste:** 1.5 tbsp
- **Cornflour:** 1 tbsp
- **Maida:** 1 tbsp ■ Oil for frying

METHOD

- Mix salt, pepper, lime juice, soya sauce, red chilli flakes, red chilli paste, ginger-garlic paste, corn flour and maida in a bowl.
- Marinate the lollipops in this mix for 15 minutes.
- Heat oil in a pan. Over medium flame, fry the lollipops till it's evenly cooked. Serve hot.

— Monisha Mathur, Coimbatore

FIT BIT

DWI PADA KANDHARASANA
(TWO-LEGGED SHOULDER POSE)

In Sanskrit, 'dwi' means 'two', 'pada' means 'feet', 'kandha' means 'shoulder', and 'asana' means 'pose'. It is an advanced inverted forward bend and resting posture that requires a great deal of flexibility in the hips, legs and back. In Ashtanga yoga and some other styles of yoga, this posture is known as yoga Nidrasana, or the yogic sleep pose. It is one of the asanas in the intermediate series of Ashtanga yoga and is believed to induce Pratyahara, the fifth limb of yoga, known as withdrawal of the senses. It is thought to balance the Svadisthana (sacral) chakra.

STEPS

- Sit on the floor and lie flat on your back.
- Bend one leg upwards. Place the foot behind your head and your leg under the armpit of the corresponding arm.
- Note that you don't take any strain while performing the pose.
- Now, repeat the same process with the other leg. Both the arms must rest above the two legs.
- Try to cross your feet behind your head and place your palms together.
- This is the final pose. Now, relax your whole body, keep your eyes closed and breathe slowly and deeply. Stay for as long as you are comfortable.
- Now, unfold the legs and straighten them.
- This is one round. Do two to three rounds as per your flexibility and suitability.

BENEFITS

- Helps revitalise the nerves of the entire body.
- An excellent pose for the smooth functioning of abdominal organs, especially the kidneys, liver, spleen, intestines and pancreas.
- Provides adequate massage to the sexual organs, thus helpful in combating sexual related ailments.
- Massages the urinary system.
- Removes lethargy and brings vitality because of profound massage of adrenal glands.
- Eases stress and tension, increases concentration and improves self-control.

LIMITATIONS

- Avoid this pose if you have back pain, sciatica, heart disease, high blood pressure, hernia, stiff spine, knee pain or spinal injury, or if you are pregnant.

– by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

SOUND BOARD

DISSECT
Dissect podcast examines a single album per season, forensically dissecting the music, lyrics, and meaning of one song per episode.
- On Apple Podcasts

STRIVING PODCAST
Hosted by Stefan Kunz and Kauren Horn, the podcast is for creative people working towards big goals. It has candid conversations that dive deep into making art, making a living and making it all work as a modern-day artist.
- On Spotify

GOOD KIDS
Good Kids features a compelling mix of perspectives on child-rearing – from parents and experts, authors and actors, to 'good' kids themselves – imparting wisdom for a brief, but potent, 10 minutes each week.
- On Apple Podcasts

FAT.SO?
Ameya and Pallavi discuss being fat—the pain, the joy, the learning, the dark humor and the silver lining. They discuss body image, societal norms, working hard at self love, failing at weight loss, loneliness, food, love and sex.
- On Apple Podcasts

MAED IN INDIA
Maed in India is India's first indie music podcast that showcases the best Indian independent musicians from India and abroad. Each episode presents an interview with an artist/band along with an exclusive stripped down session or acoustic renditions of their original music.
- On Spotify

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

SALANGAI OLI
Balakrishna, a trained Kuchipudi dancer, gets an opportunity to compete in a classical dance festival. However, two days prior to his performance, his mother passes away which leaves him devastated
- Cast: Kamal Haasan, SP Sailja, Sarath Babu, Sakshi Ranga Rao

KENDASAMPIGE
Ravi, an attendant, has a love affair with Gowri, the daughter of the owner of his company. A set of events leads to him being jailed over a narcotic case. But he manages to flee with Gowri's help.
- Cast: Vikky Varun, Manvitha Harish

YAARE KOOGADALI
Kumara and Natesha escape from a mental hospital and come to the city. They are soon chased by a gangster while their actual truth is revealed.
- Cast: Puneeth Rajkumar, Bhavana

MYTHRI
Siddarama is one step away from winning a sum of ₹one crore in a game show hosted by his favourite actor Puneeth Rajkumar. However, scientist Mahadev Godke attempts to ruin his plans.
- Cast: Mohanlal, Puneeth Rajkumar

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 CAN YOU FIND THE NEXT NUMBER IN THIS SEQUENCE? BY ALEX GENDLER
1, 11, 21, 1211, 111221. These are the first five elements of a number sequence. Can you figure out what comes next? Alex Gendler reveals the answer and explains how beyond just being a neat puzzle, this type of sequence has practical applications as well.

2 THE KEY TO MEDIA'S HIDDEN CODES BY BEN BEATON
Colours, camera angles and logos in the media can all prompt immediate associations with emotions, activities and memories. Learn to decode the intricate system of symbols that are a part of everyday life – from advertising messages to traffic signs.

3 3 WARP SPEED ARCHITECTURE TALES BY BJARKE INGELS
Danish architect Bjarke Ingels rockets through photo/video-mingled stories of his eco-flashy designs. His buildings not only look like nature – they act like nature: blocking the wind, collecting solar energy – and creating stunning views.

4 BIOMIMICRY IN ACTION BY JANINE BENYUS
Janine Benyus has a message for inventors: When solving a design problem, look to nature first. There you'll find inspired designs for making things waterproof, aerodynamic, solar-powered and more. Here she reveals dozens of new products that take their cue from nature with spectacular results.

5 WHAT THE PEOPLE OF AMAZON KNOW THAT YOU DON'T BY MARK PLOTKIN
"The greatest and most endangered species in the Amazon rainforest is not the jaguar or the harpy eagle," says Mark Plotkin, "It's the isolated and uncontacted tribes." In an energetic and sobering talk, the ethnobotanist brings us into the world of the forest's indigenous tribes and the incredible medicinal plants that their shamans use to heal.

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

LAW (Kannada)
Nandhini, a law student who is caught in a precarious situation fights for justice for a gruesome crime that took place.
- Cast: Ragini Prajwal, Mukhyamantri Chandru, Sudharani
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

BAJIRAO MASTANI (Hindi)
The heroic Peshwa Bajirao, married to Kashibai, falls in love with Mastani, a warrior princess in distress. They struggle to make their love triumph amid opposition from his conservative family.
Cast: Ranveer Singh, Deepika Padukone, Priyanka Chopra
- Watch on: Voot

ASHRAM (Hindi, series)
A guru, Baba Nirala, is known to do magic, who has the solution to every problem of mankind and who has the knowledge of every missing woman of the area. And from crime to politics, this veteran Baba soon becomes the Godly man.
Cast: Bobby Deol, Tridha Choudhury, Anupriya Goenka, Darshan Kumaar
- Watch on: MX Player

NATARAJA SERVICE (Kannada)
Nataraja, a petty and unsuccessful thief, bumps into Sahana, who is considered to be an ill-omened girl. Things get complicated when both fall in love with each other.
Cast: Sharan, Mayuri Kyatari, Rockline Venkatesh
- Watch on: MX Player

JANTA GARAGE (Telugu)
Anand, an environmental activist, comes to Hyderabad to attend a seminar. An unexpected encounter with Sathyam, who runs an organisation for the oppressed, changes his purpose in life.
Cast: NTR Jr, Nithya Menen, Samantha Akkineni, Unni Mukundan
- Watch on: Sony LIV

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

JL50 (Hindi, series)
A plane is discovered to have recently crashed in West Bengal. However, what is so baffling about the incident is that plane originally went missing 35 years ago.
Cast: Abhay Deol, Pankaj Kapur, Piyush Mishra, Rajesh Sharma
- Watch on: Sony LIV

CHI LA SOW (Telugu)
Even though Arjun has no intentions of getting married, his parents set up a blind date with a girl. He falls in love with her, but soon, circumstances make him change his mind regarding marriage.
Cast: Ruhani Sharma, Suhanth, Anu Hasan, Vidyullekha Raman
- Watch on: MX Player

FOREIGN

TOTO AND HIS SISTERS (Romanian, documentary)
Nine-year-old Toto lives with his teenage sisters Ana and Andreea in a barely habitable apartment building on the outskirts of Bucharest. Toto's mother has been in prison for drug dealing for over four years, and his uncles use the apartment as a meeting place to sell and take drugs.
Cast: Hovarth Ilie Nicusor Gabriel Petre, Andreea Violeta Petre, Ana-Maria Badulescu Petre
- Watch on: Mubi

SOL ALEGRIA (Portuguese)
While the country is under the yoke of a military junta and corrupt priests preach the apocalypse, a lawless, eccentric family treks through Brazil's interior with the aim to deliver a consignment of weapons to a group of militant nuns. A journey begins that becomes ever more dangerous.
Cast: Mariah Teixeira, Joana Medeiros, Mauro Soares
- Watch on: Mubi

REBECCA (English)
A young new bride arrives at her husband's imposing family estate on a windswept English coast and finds herself battling the shadow of his first wife, Rebecca, whose legacy lives on in the house long after her death.
Cast: Lily James, Armie Hammer, Sam Riley, Kristin Scott Thomas
- Watch on: Netflix

ONE DAY AT A TIME (English, series)
The series follows the life of Penelope, a newly single Army veteran, and her Cuban-American family, as they navigate the ups and downs of life. Now a nurse, Penelope is raising two strong-willed children. When faced with challenges, Penelope turns to her "old-school" mother, and her building manager, who has become an invaluable confidant. The series offers a contemporary take on what life looks like in both good and bad times, and how loved ones can help make it all worthwhile.
Cast: Justine Machado, Rita Moreno, Isabella Gomez, Marcel Ruiz
- Watch on: Netflix

SUBSCRIBE FOR FUN!

Netflix: ₹199 per month
MX Player: Free
Voot: ₹ 99 per month
Sony LIV: ₹ 299 per month
Mubi: ₹ 499 per month

POST SCRIPT: RISING TEMPERS, HEAVY VIRAL LOADS AND NO VACCINE IN SIGHT

OPEN SPACE
Pallavi Srivastava
Editor, City Express
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It's high time we got the vaccine. No, it's not about Bihar vs Karnataka. In fact, I am not even talking about the Covid-19 vaccine, although that's a priority, of course, free distribution or not. But we, or at least I, do need something to boost the immunity against the noxious social media posts that have the tendency to go viral in no time. Impolite conversations are apparently extremely infectious too, and there would scarcely be a place that's more of a superspreader than social media platforms.

The past few weeks have once again thrown open a big field for people to display their hurt sensibilities, disrespect others' opinions, and clamour to prove themselves right – and all this while flinging about abuses. And this time, they got plenty of chances to throw around four-letter words. Besides 'Modi' and 'Shah', that is.

Imagine, people the world over blaring to prove if idli (yes, that's four letters) is boring or not. Or if it is more, or less, flavourful than puttu. What next? Arguments over whether plain rice is dull? Or roti? What about couscous then, or polenta? Seriously, when did we start fighting over the taste of food? How did we come to this?

How did we come to being a community where a former chief minister calls a woman politician 'item' (that's four letters too), and then refuses to apologise? The self-styled activists, fuelled by adrenaline and mismanners, reacted as they always do – by hurling insults at each other, which often matched the derisive term they were protesting against. But this time, they could not launch their usual call for boycott. There's no use asking fellow opinionated netizens to boycott a politician, right? If they could, the men with the four-letter surnames at the helm of the country's affairs would have been long sent out of public light. And anyway, social media users were busy making calls for boycott, and calls for boycott of calls for boycott, of Tanishq. Okay, no four-letter words there. But remember, both 'love' and 'hate', the talk of which the ad prompted in huge volumes, are. Imagine, people appreciating the oneness oozing out of the campaign while lobbing slurs at the opponents. And the latter, talking about their bruised sentiments, and denigrating the adversaries with vile comments in the same breath.

Scarcely had the controversy over the jewellery advertisement subsided that another one erupted. This time, it was over the Navratri posters floated by Eros Now, which, in the first place itself, looked like a job done by trolls. Like Tanishq, the entertainment platform too withdrew the ad. Just the way actor Vijay Sethupathi pulled out of the proposed Muttiah Muralitharan biopic, soon after backlash against him – including rape threats to his daughter – began circulating on social media.

But of course, there would be no withdrawing of the slanderous terms using which people argued with each other. Nobody will issue apologies for breaching the lines of civility and courtesy that are taught in moral science classes in school. The lull will last only till the next controversy, till the next trending hashtag stirs emotions. It's a pandemic out there, with people living a masked identity of sorts, and yet being able to spew venom at each other. We, or at least I, will need an antidote, and soon.

Illustration: Tapas Ranjan

(From left) Akshaya Maller, Sera Minocher and Rhea Subramanian display clothes from their thrift shop • Meghana Sastry

STRAY THOUGHTS

Three city friends have come together to set up a thrift store and give 100 per cent of their sale proceeds towards rescuing streeties

"The thrift market is picking up pace rapidly on social media, and there are a number of 19-21 year olds who are getting involved in this. I myself have started shopping thrift and it seems to be the way forward
—Rhea Subramanian, businesswoman

• Vidya Iyengar

Too many clothes, too little funds to help rescue injured strays. What's the connection, you may ask? Three friends – Rhea Subramanian, Akshaya Maller and Sera Minocher – added two and two to start The Dog Pile Thrift, an Instagram store (@thedogpilethrift) to raise funds to help animals.

Started two months ago in the midst of the pandemic, they find themselves thronged with donation requests, so much so that they've had to put them on hold. "We realised we had an excess of clothes and needed to figure a way to either give them away or control the way where we shop. Every time we'd come across street animals that needed help, we realised the financial strain that came along," says Subramanian, 28, who runs a two-wheeler dealership.

While Maller is training to be a vet, Minocher works in the CSR division of a multi-national firm. The trio usually meets twice a week, when they look intologistics. Once they receive donation requests, they select the garments based on the likelihood of sale, after which the outfits are shot, priced, and sent to be laundered. It's then put up on Instagram where anyone can order by sending across a direct message. "Usually, outfits are priced under ₹1,500 unless they are high-value brands, in which case we make an exception," she says, adding that they ship across India.

With the raging pandemic, one would assume that preowned clothes are viewed with suspicion. However, Subramanian points out that the market, particularly on social media, is large. "The thrift market is picking up pace rapidly on social media, and there are a number of 19-21 year olds who are getting involved in this. I myself have started shopping thrift and it seems to be the way forward. I'd rather buy preowned clothes, which go through extensive laundry and are in near-perfect condition, rather than going to a store to purchase an outfit which has been tried on by multiple people," she says.

Future plans include opening a physical space, complete with a cafe and events venue, where they can build a pet-friendly community. "We also want to get into curating the products in a thoughtful way, rather than accepting several donations from one person," she says.

MONEY TALKS AND MORE

• Express Features

There may be some hope on the horizon with the number of Covid-19 cases coming down and the economy opening up again. So when it came to finalising a topic for the next edition of Just Speak, a platform that gives people the opportunity to discuss and debate social issues, **Vasantha Vaikunth** knew just what to pick. The holistic lifestyle coach and dancer who launched this platform says, "The theme for upcoming discussion is Mind Money Management. It made sense to talk about the right mindset to adapt at this point, look at where to invest and understand how to manage money."

The online discussion will take place on Zoom on Nov. 7. With 400-500 people participating in the previous three editions, including some from overseas, Vaikunth decided to livestream the event on Facebook as well this time. The list of speakers includes Mohandas Pai, chairman of Manipal Global Education; Feroze Azeez, deputy CEO of Anand Rathi Financial Services; Shankar Ram, founder and director of Greydient Learning; and special invitee Vikram Dasgupta, who is a Wall Street banker. "We wanted to include a diverse range of speakers so that viewers can enjoy different perspectives being shared and discussed," says Vaikunth, who believes the event can cater to people from every walk of life.

"Whether you are a student, common man or corporate professional, there's something interesting you can take away from the event. We even encourage women entrepreneurs to join in so that they can gain some insight," she adds.

Vaikunth launched Just Speak during the initial lockdown in order to allow two-way meaningful conversations. While all sessions have been virtual so far, she does hope to start face-to-face sessions early next year. "But until that is safe to do, we will continue these online sessions. Our fifth edition, centred on fitness and nutrition, will take place just before the new year kicks in."

For details email: vasantha@lifenliving.org

LOVEOLOGY
Mahesh Natarajan

MAKING UP MATTERS

Here is a small exercise for you: Take a bottle of water. Hold it out as if you are offering it to someone you think is thirsty. Stay with your hand reaching out like that, waiting for the other person to take the bottle from you. Watch what you feel as you wait for it to be taken. Feel that initial warm and pleasant feelings, the joy of thinking that you are about to help somebody with their thirst, even feelings of affection. Stay holding it out, and watch what happens next as nobody really takes that bottle from your hand. You are offering the bottle so kindly, but there is just no interest in taking it. Observe now what you are feeling. Are you getting a little miffed? Maybe a little agitated?

If you can, try and hold it a little longer. Then, for a while more. Hold it long enough, and you will start finding that your arm aches. Your muscles start whining under that stress, till they are screaming in agony. It really hurts to hold out that little bottle of water for so long. You might even find yourself tearing up, and finally, at some point, you would likely give up. By then, you would be tired out, and if someone at that point, came and asked you for a bottle of water, you are more likely to throw the bottle at them or empty the bottle at their feet in spite and anger, rather than actually give them the water as you originally intended.

In love and relationships, reaching out after a fight is a bit like holding out that bottle of water. If the person you are looking to make up with is not interested in making up with you at that time, but you continue to hold out that peace offering, waiting for them to take it up, you are likely to get really cheesed off sooner or later, and have another thing to fight about. When you have given up or are about to give up, if they finally do reach back out to you, you might just scream at them, "I tried and tried to make up, and you wouldn't listen! What makes you think I want to make up now!" and then they become the one trying to make peace, and you are the one refusing to take it.

The cycle can continue on and on till finally the whole thing cracks. So, what could you do instead?

If you are really reaching out with a bottle of water for someone, wouldn't you just set it near them, say, "Hey, I have got some water. Let me know if you need anything else," and withdraw a little, waiting for them to take the water?

Do the same thing. Tell the person you fight with, "Hey, I am ready to make up. I am here when you are ready," and back away. Reach out by all means, but don't do so in a way that hurts you.

(The writer is counsellor with InnerSight)

Puppy love

Aindrita Ray and Diganth Manchale had a busy Monday. Ray shared a glimpse of what the two actors were up to on her Insta stories. Using cement blocks, some clothes and a plastic sheet, the two managed to set up a makeshift shelter that could protect stray pups from the rain. They even fed the three puppies who they set the home for. That's some puppy love!

No sharing

Check out Yash's Instagram for your daily dose of cuteness. The actor shared a video of his little girl Ayra enjoying a bowl of ice cream. The doting dad tried to get her to share but to no avail. Yash said in the post, "Sharing is caring... not when it comes to ICE CREAM (Getting a dose of my own medicine here)".

Girls' night out

When people say there can't be best friends in the entertainment industry, Asha Bhat, Srinidhi Shetty and Roshmitha Harimurthy surely prove them wrong. The girls dressed up for the festival and did a fun photo shoot at home. They were acting goofy, funny and needless to say looked gorgeous in their desi avatar.

CITY READ

Bike rally for hospitality industry

Ride for Hospitality, an event organised by the Hotel GMs Guild India, was flagged of by Baljee, CMD of Royal Orchid Group of Hotels, on October 25. Around 30 motorcycle riders were part of the event which was aimed to lift the spirits of the people of hospitality industry, during the pandemic. The riders rode their way from Hotel Royal Orchid, Old Airport Road, to Royal Orchid Resort & Convention Centre, Yelahanka via Ginger Hotel, Taj Vivanta & Howard Johnson Hebbal hotel. The ride concluded at Royal Orchid Resort & Convention Centre, Yelahanka over a brunch.

DUNIYA VIJAY TO LAUNCH LAKSHMAN GOPAL AS HERO IN A RAW LOVE STORY

Popularly known as Lucky Gopal among his peers, the debutant actor says he always aspired to become a director, and the acting opportunity has come to him by accident

• A Sharadhaa

Turning an actor was a distant thought for Lakshman Gopal, but destiny had different plans. Popularly known as Lucky Gopal among his peers, and friends in Sandalwood, he always aspired to foray into direction, and had even announced his first directorial venture starring Shivarajkumar. However, his career fate brings him face to face with the camera first, and Lakshman Gopal is set to be launched as a hero in actor-turned-director Duniya Vijay's second venture. The *Salaga* director had announced of helming a youthful film a couple of days ago, and an official announcement of Lucky Gopal coming on board was made by the team on the occasion of Vijayadashami.

Gopal is yet another talent coming from the Rajkumar clan. He is the legendary actor's sister's grandson. Gopal says the acting assignment has come as a surprise to him, and he is still letting the development sink in. "My aim was never to become an actor, but director Duniya Vijay sees an artiste in me, and has chosen to bring me in front of the camera," says Gopal, narrating how the project fell in his lap. "The *Salaga* team mostly consists of technicians who worked in director Suri's *Doddmane Hudga* and *Tagaru*, in which I had worked as an associate director. Since I was familiar with them, I used to visit the *Salaga* sets when Duniya Vijay spotted me, and I met him at the office. The decision of me being a part of the project happened over a few rounds of interaction. It was a unanimous choice by the team including producer K P Srikanth, dialogue writer Masti, and co-director Abhi, that I play the lead, " says Gopal, adding, "Vijay, who knew about my directorial commitment for Shivanna's project, made sure to take the latter's consent before going ahead with signing me up. Even Shivanna himself advised me that it is a good opportunity and that I should not miss it. It's everyone's encouragement that I have been receiving, which has pushed me to test the waters as an actor."

Duniya Vijay

Vijay has come up with a raw love story, which is currently being worked upon. Lucky Gopal will be undergoing an intense workshop before the project goes on floors in December.

Lakshman Gopal

'COMPOSING SEAMLESS MUSIC FOR *BHEEMASENA*...WAS A CHALLENGE'

Music director Charan Raj says it was a big opportunity for him to team up with director Karthik Saragur, who has been an integral part of music compositions

• CE Features

For a dish to come to its complete form, it involves a combination of various ingredients. Likewise, *Bheemasena Nala maharaja*, which explores the different emotions of a family attached with food, and Charan Raj's music become a soulful connect," says director Karthik Saragur, ahead of the film's release on Amazon Prime on Oct. 29. "*Bheemasena...* will be one of the best albums coming from Charan Raj, and the film's background score is going to be a musical treat for the audience," says Karthik Saragar, who will be unveiling another song -- *Kannaa Muchche* -- on Wednesday. Calling *Bheemasena...* a slice-of-life film, Charan Raj says composing seamless music was a challenge for the songs since it had to gel with the film's screenplay and narration. The music director, who has come up with six full-fledged songs and two bits, including flavours of jazz, Bhavageethe, folk (laavani) music, Kanda Padya, Carnatic, and ghazal style of music, says, "The best part of *Bheemasena...* was that the team gave me the freedom to experiment."

Charan says it was a big opportunity to team up with Karthik Saragur, who himself is a musical person. "We belong to Ramkrishna Vidyashala Mysuru, and he was my leader when I was in school, and guided me with music. He has been an integral part of the compositions in *Bheemasena...*," he says.

Charan Raj

The music director's favourite is the climax song and he is happy to bring in the Kannada flavour in the compositions. "We also managed to bring in poetry for a couple of tracks – Bhaavageeta by prominent poet Sri SV Parameshwara Bhat, and a Carnatic composition -- *Baaro Krishnayya* by Kanakadasa. This song was shot in Doddamalur, near Channapatna where Purandarasa had composed *Jagadoddharana*. We also have Laavani tunes for lyrics written by Sri Ankanayaka, a retired government school teacher from Saragur. The rest of the songs are written by Karthik Saragur himself," says Charan Raj.

Bheemasena... is jointly produced by Rakshit Shetty, Pushkar Mallikarjunaiah and Hemanth M Rao. It stars Aravinnd Iyer in the lead role along with Aarohi Narayan, Priyanka Thimmesh and Achyuth Kumar as part of the cast.

Raveena Tandon's look from *KGF Chapter 2* unveiled

• CE Features

Raveena Tandon's look from Yash's *KGF Chapter 2* was launched by the makers today to celebrate the actor's birthday. The poster features a solemn Raveena in a solid red sari, sitting in the parliament. The actor, who makes her Kannada debut with this film, plays Ramika Sen, who is reportedly modelled after the late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

"The gavel to brutality!!! Presenting Ramika Sen from *KGF Chapter 2*. Thanks to KGF team for the gift," tweeted Raveena, sharing the poster. *KGF Chapter 2* is headlined by Yash and also stars Srinidhi Shetty, Prakash Raj, and Sanjay Dutt in important roles. The pan-Indian film is directed by Prashanth Neel, who also helmed the first chapter.

The crew began shooting recently after the Covid lockdown with Yash joining the sets earlier this month. Shooting for the Kannada film, which will release in Tamil, Telugu, Hindi and Malayalam.

Raveena Tandon plays Ramika Sen in *KGF Chapter 2*

Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Elnaaz Norouzi reunite for *Sangeen*

• CE Features

Nawazuddin Siddiqui is set to star alongside his Sacred Games co-star Elnaaz Norouzi in director Jaideep Chopra's *Sangeen*. The film will be shot across London and Mumbai and will go on floors in January 2021.

Siddiqui described Sangeen as a 'unique film' and said he is thrilled to be essaying a "thought-provoking character". "I am looking forward to teaming up once again with Elnaaz Norouzi after Sacred Games. The script is an experimental one and I am sure Jaideep Chopra will do full justice to it and together we will be able to discover something novel," the actor said in a statement.

Iran-born Norouzi said she is honoured to reunite with Siddiqui after the popular Netflix crime-drama series.

"*Sangeen* is an incredible script, a role I've always secretly dreamt of essaying as an actor. I am looking forward to bringing that complex character to life with Jaideep sir who has written it so skilfully," she added.

Sangeen is jointly produced by Gurjit Singh of Golden Era Films and Ankit Khanna of AK Projekts. Chopra, who has also written the film, said he could not think of anyone else but Siddiqui for the part.

"He is an actor par excellence and I couldn't think of anyone more deserving than him to bring a sense of authenticity to my film. Elnaaz Norouzi has an innate creative acumen and this film will showcase her in a brand-new light within the cinematic ecosphere," Chopra said.

"I'm excited to be curating the complete musical score of a film," Raftaar said.

Halle Berry to begin shooting for *Moonfall*

• CE Features

Halle Berry is set to start filming for Independence Day filmmaker Roland Emmerich's next, *Moonfall*. Berry made the announcement on Instagram recently.

"Officially out of Quarantine - ready to get to work! Moonfall here I come," she posted with a selfie. Moonfall will see Berry play the role of a 'NASA astronaut turned administrator' whose earlier mission holds hints about an imminent disaster. In the film, the moon gets knocked out of its orbit by an unknown force and is on course to collide with Earth.

Apart from Berry, the film also stars Patrick Wilson, Stanley Tucci, Josh Gad, and John Bradley. Halle Berry was last seen in *John Wick: Chapter 3 – Parabellum*.

• CE Features

Bollywood stars Arjun Kapoor, Rajkummar Rao and Disha Patani will be teaming up to lend their voice for the Hindi dubbed version of the hit Amazon Prime Video series *The Boys*. They will be the voice of Billy Butcher, Homelander and Starlight, respectively.

"I have been a huge fan of the series ever since it released on Amazon Prime Video. The character of Billy Butcher, much like the series, has a unique charm and an impressive character arc. Billy's wild sarcasm and his alluring ruggedness spoke to me and I can't be more excited to voice this delightfully-vexed vigilante," says Arjun.

Speaking about dubbing for the 'Seven's' leader Homelander, Rajkumar says, "The Boys" is one of my favourite series on Amazon Prime Video. It is fascinating to watch Antony Starr as Homelander – an infuriatingly complex character that everyone loves to hate. Voicing for Homelander has been extremely exciting and I hope that the audiences like what I have done with my voice for Homelander. It's been a great experience doing this."

A still from *The Boys*

Arjun Kapoor, Rajkummar Rao and Disha Patani lend voice for *The Boys* Hindi version

Adding her thoughts on voicing Starlight, Disha says, "Starlight is probably one of the most humane and grounded amongst the Vought army. You can't help but feel for her. Having said that, she's not to be trifled with and terrifying when provoked. So when Amazon Prime Video approached me to lend my voice for the character – there really was no doubt in my mind! Dubbing for the character has been such a fun experience and I hope the audiences are able to enjoy *The Boys* along with my character and her journey in the same way I did."

Along with Hindi, the series will also be dubbed in Tamil and Telugu. The dubbed versions are set to launch on Amazon Prime Video on October 28.

Kunal Kohli completes shooting of Richa Chadha's *Lahore Confidential*

• CE Features

The shooting of Kunal Kohli's upcoming spy thriller, *Lahore Confidential*, has been wrapped up. Starring Richa Chadha and Arunoday Singh in the lead, the film was shot during the pandemic with all necessary safety measures in place.

Kohli took to Twitter and shared behind-the-scenes pictures from the set, where everyone was masked and maintained social distancing.

"Self Drove to all locations. No driver. No one allowed to enter my car. For car tracking shots I drove along in my car with a monitor... On set, one chair only for me. That's sanitized not just daily but every time shifting happens on set. My monitor is separate, and no one was allowed six feet near it or me," Kohli wrote.

The filmmaker said it took him a while to adjust to the new regulations. "I love to operate the second camera at times. Couldn't do that. Also couldn't sit near the camera as I usually do to see the artists perform with 'bareeki.' Had to be at the monitor instead. In small or closed places, production got the place sanitised with a sanitising gun in every break," he added.

The film's narrative revolves around a humble, divorced Indian woman who finds herself on an intelligence duty in Pakistan. Lahore Confidential also features popular television actor Karishma Tanna in a pivotal role.

Richa Chadha